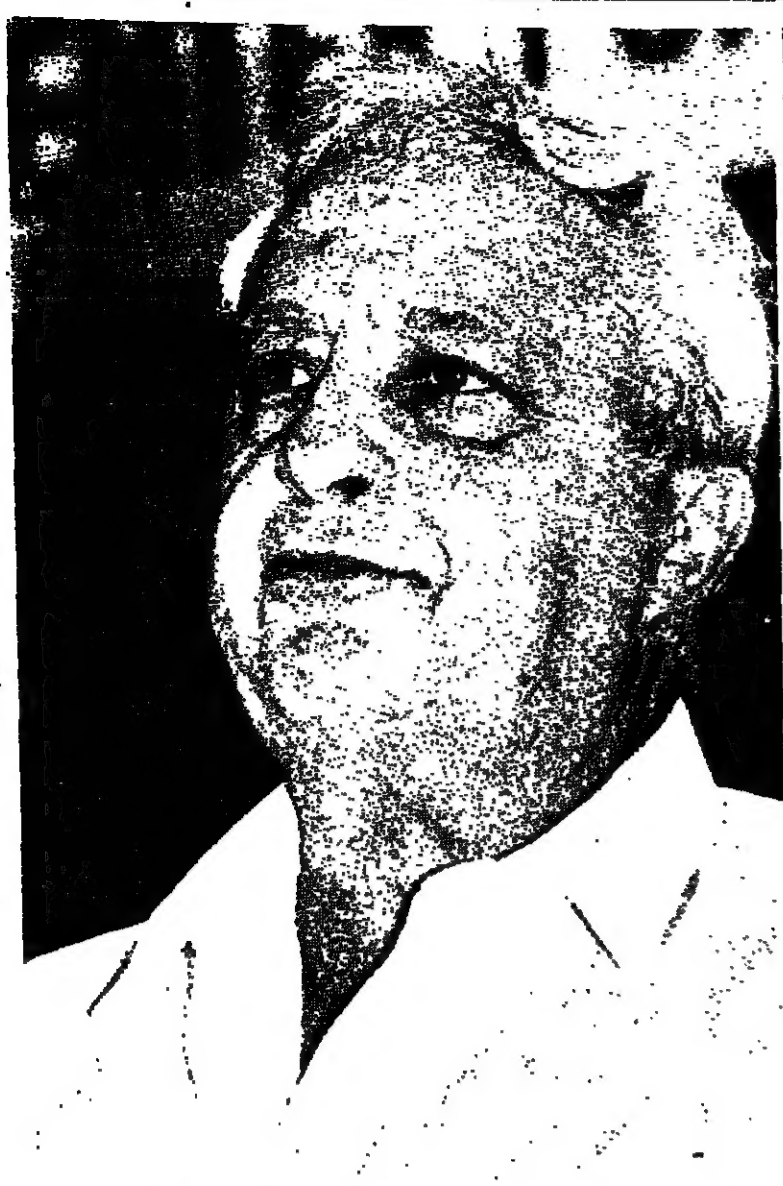


Page 4  
Computerized Bar Mitzva

# THE JERUSALEM POST

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Beating the  
travel tax  
Page 9



A sweating Ariel Sharon gives his account of the war in Lebanon at Tel Aviv University yesterday. (M. Daniel/Media)

## Sharon defends Lebanon war as 'war of salvation'

By BENNY MORRIS  
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Breaking four years of relative silence, Ariel Sharon yesterday launched a campaign to "clear" his name and "defend" the Lebanon War with which it is identified.

The thrust of his marathon 200-minute lecture before a star-studded audience at Tel Aviv University was that the war was a success; and that it initially enjoyed wide political and military backing in Israel, and that each of the army's moves was approved in advance by the cabinet and the IDF brass. Sharon's speech was interrupted at times by leftist heckling and raucous applause from Herutniks.

Burying Menachem Begin with repeated praise, Sharon shattered the charge that he had deceived the former prime minister and led him by the nose by repeatedly quoting Begin as leading his cabinet colleagues into the war and then into its various stages. Sharon quoted at length, if selectively, from cabinet protocols for the years 1979-83.

"I did not come here to respond to various charges. I have come to state the truth, to tell the things as they were—for the first time, yes, for the first time—on the fifth anniversary of the expulsion of the PLO terrorists from Beirut," he said, as he embarked on a detailed description of the countdown to the war. The expulsion, he repeatedly declared, was the high point and major objective of the war.

Sharon said yesterday that the Lebanon War was "a war of salvation, and I am proud to have been one of its organizers, a war against our main enemy—the Palestinian terrorism that has been fighting us for 100 years."

Sharon's account of events produced a barrage of critical response last night, and more can be expected. Former chief of general staff Mordchai Gur, interviewed on Israel Television's *Mabat*, referred to Sharon's lecture as full of "lies and half-truths," and said it made him realize that it was necessary to investigate in a thorough way the handling of the war. Eli Geva, the officer who asked to be relieved of his command during the bombardment of Beirut, was also interviewed. He said that parts of what Sharon said were incorrect, and that the former defence minister had even contradicted himself as he spoke yesterday.

Both Gur and a Labour spokesman said that the Labour Party had never approved any action beyond the initial 40-km. campaign. Ezer Weizman was quoted on TV last night as saying he would wait to respond in full, but "Sharon was famous for his inaccuracy."

In launching the war, the Begin government was only following in the footsteps of all the Labour-led governments that had preceded it, Sharon declared.

A young woman at this point began shouting: "You should be ashamed of yourself! Shame!" University guards dragged her out of the hall as Herutniks cheered and the dignitaries, including former Foreign Ministry director-general David Kimche, former chief of general staff Moshe Levy, former General Security Service executive Yossi Ginosar, former Aluf Menachem Eini and Aluf Yitzhak Mordchai, looked on in embarrassment.

The Lebanon war, unlike Israel's past wars, said Sharon, was the first to be run "from A to Z" by the cabinet, which met and discussed options and moves twice daily. Objectives and targets were set out and debates for months before the first shots were fired. It was also, said Sharon, the "first war in which all the objectives were achieved." The dead, he added, fell in "a just war"—though at no point during the lecture did Sharon mention the number of casualties. (Continued on Back Page)

## In 'best interest' of both Israel and Washington

# U.S. says 'terminate' the Lavi

By DAVID MAKOVSKY

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. has for the first time openly called on Israel to "terminate" the Lavi fighter programme.

Reading a prepared statement yesterday, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said cancelling the project would be in the "best interest" of both Israel and the U.S. Redman added that if the Lavi were continued, it would "crowd out other important projects" in Israel that are currently funded by the U.S. government.

In the past, the U.S. has indicated its opposition to the project; yet it always said that the final decision was Israel's. The U.S. has stated repeatedly that the Lavi in the year ahead would consume a growing chunk of Israel's \$1.8 billion annual military assistance, and the total would not be enlarged. Therefore, other military projects between the two countries would be jeopardized.

The State Department statement reads: "We have made clear to the government of Israel, most recently during the visit of Minister of Defence Rabin, that we have serious concerns regarding the costs of the Lavi project and its potential impact on Israel's defence planning and its economy."

"Both the U.S. and Israel estimate production costs of a magnitude which could not be funded within our security assistance programme to Israel without crowding out other important projects."

"Given the budgetary realities we and Israel face, we believe a decision by Israel to terminate the Lavi would be in the best interest of both our countries."

Redman refused to add any comment.

Richard Armitage, assistant secretary of defence for international security affairs and top adviser to Secretary Weinberger for Middle East affairs, reminded *The Jerusalem Post* of the Pentagon position.

The Pentagon position regarding the Lavi has long been understood. We believe that immediate termination is in the best interest of Israel. These valuable dollars can best be used in support of other critical programmes.

Informed sources say "crowding out" is the worst thing that would happen if the Israeli cabinet decided to proceed with the development and production of the jet fighter. Other implications are emerging both in terms of the recent aid concessions won by Rabin, and, perhaps more ominously, of the long-term military relationships between the U.S. and Israel.

A "sweetener" package offered to Rabin during his recent trip here would be withdrawn. As one highly informed source said regarding the continuation of the Lavi: "Defence Secretary Weinberger's promises to Rabin were contingent upon cancellation." Specifically, Rabin was told that should Israel drop the Lavi, approximately \$400m. of its military aid, instead of the current \$300m., could be used in Israel, instead of for purchase in the U.S.

Israel would also lose a Weinberger concession that would extend for two years sub-contracting military work in Israel. The concession should provide Israel with \$150m.-\$200m. to be spent in the country over the next two years.

Informed sources are worried about the effects of an Israeli cabinet decision to proceed with the Lavi on the long-term future of Israel's relationship with the Pentagon, as they fear repercussions that could be measured in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

Since many decisions affecting the Pentagon's \$300b. annual budget are made on the bureaucratic level, there might

be no visible linkage, sources said, but the impact could be severe for Israel's economic growth. These operational decisions are beyond the reach of Congress that has been friendly to Israel.

One type of cooperation that might be jeopardized involves the goods and services that the U.S. purchases from Israel, some of it in competitive bidding. In 1983, the Pentagon purchased \$9m. worth of goods and services. By 1986, the figure had skyrocketed to \$205m.

A second sphere is pending contracts that analysts said could run into the hundreds of millions of dollars. Sources also believe approval of the Lavi could scotch possibilities of Israel selling advanced missiles and other weaponry in the near future.

A third field of cooperation includes technological exchanges between the two countries. While both countries benefit from sharing high technology, informed sources say reducing the exchange would harm Israel's military projects and scientific research.

Sources also said goodwill between Israel and U.S. military officials would be impaired by the continuation of the Lavi, as the perception was that Israel would be wasting U.S. funds for reasons of "national prestige."

Dov Zackheim, formerly with the Pentagon and still a leading critic of the Lavi, said: "There is no doubt that a decision to continue with the Lavi would damage Israel's credibility with the Pentagon, since it is well known that both its economic and military leaders are opposed to the airplane."

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

## Britain, France to send minesweepers to Gulf

Post Middle East Staff  
and agencies

Britain and France yesterday said they would dispatch a total of six minesweepers to the Persian Gulf, as the discovery of at least three more mines in a crowded sea of Oman shipping haven further fuelled area tensions.

The British and French moves represent the first positive European response to recent U.S. pleas for help in clearing the Gulf and nearby waterways of mines.

A convoy of three reflagged Kuwaiti tankers and their U.S. Navy escorts safely reached Kuwait yesterday after narrowly avoiding a mine in the Gulf, shipping sources said. The convoy was the second to sail under a U.S. scheme to protect Kuwaiti shipping from Iranian attack.

The three mines discovered in the Sea of Oman yesterday were found floating off the port of Fujairah, where a mine struck the U.S.-owned tanker, Texaco-Caribbean, on Monday.



A mine photographed in the Gulf of Oman yesterday. (Reuters)

The United Arab Emirates port, until now considered a safe haven, is a key supply stop for ships entering and leaving the Gulf and a strategic

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

## Treasury preparing final onslaught

By AVI TEMKIN  
Post Economic Reporter

The Treasury is mobilizing its forces of persuasion for one final, desperate attempt to shoot down the Lavi jetfighter project.

The ministry knows that there is a majority of at least four or five ministers in the cabinet in favour of going ahead with the project. But officials hope that by playing its last trump card—the need to find resources to finance the development and production of the plane—some of the ministers now supporting the project will change their minds at the last minute.

A final decision on the Lavi is expected to be taken by the cabinet on Sunday.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim yesterday declared that the difference between going ahead with the Lavi and purchasing ready-made F-16s from the U.S. will amount to some \$2 billion. He estimated that the final average cost for each Lavi produced will be \$97 million assuming only 75 of the planes are produced.

Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno also attacked the jet, (see story page 9). Even when the money

spent until now is subtracted and the cost calculated only on the basis of future expenditures, Nissim said each Lavi will cost \$59m. compared with \$36m. for the F-16.

### Contracts on ice

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
The U.S. is delaying approval of various defence contracts with Israel pending a decision on the Lavi's future, a well-placed government source told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

The source declined to say what those contracts provided. However, he did say that some required U.S. approval and some concerned an extension of earlier agreements. U.S. officials "are not dealing with them now," he said.

The source insisted this was "not a sanction" and added he believed that a few days' delay in approval would cause no problems for Israel.

Nissim added that even if the number of Lavis produced is eventually doubled to 150 planes the cost per plane will only be trimmed to \$82 million.

"We are dealing not only with money matters, but also with matters of life and death," said Nissim.

He was hinting at the army's argument that if the Lavi project is carried out there would not be enough money left to finance the development of much needed weapon systems.

The main argument the Treasury will use in the coming days is that those supporting the project must offer viable sources of continued funding for the jet.

Treasury officials said the main problem was that the Likud saw the Lavi as "its" project, and thinks that scrapping it will be interpreted as a political failure. But Finance Ministry officials hope that once some of these ministers are forced to decide between the jet, and imposing taxes or cutting social services, they will reassess their position.

In the Knesset, the battle for the Lavi grew more pitched yesterday. MK Abba Eban (Alignment), chairman of the Knesset Defence and Foreign Affairs Committee, decided to hold a new meeting on the Lavi with the members of the Knesset Finance Committee. (See story—Page 2)

## Amal threatens to hit targets in Israel if attacks continue

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
ROSH HANIKRA. — The Amal Shi'ite organization yesterday threatened to hit targets inside Israel if the IDF continues to attack villages in Amal-controlled areas of South Lebanon.

The warnings came in a statement issued in Tyre and carried in Beirut newspapers.

Until now Amal has confined its attacks to IDF and South Lebanese Army targets inside the security zone in South Lebanon, and not across the border.

Only once in the past two years have Amal militiamen fired into Israel. That incident was preceded by an announcement of Amal's intentions.

The organization has also claimed responsibility for the mortar attack that wounded six IDF soldiers in the central sector of the security zone on Monday afternoon.

(Continued on page 9)

## 'Work on Osirak began last October'

PARIS (Reuters). — Work to restart Iraq's Osirak reactor was begun last October, according to the latest issue of *Le Canard Enchaîné*.

The French weekly said yesterday that Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's government had secretly begun work to help Iraq reconstruct the French-built nuclear reactor razed by Israel in 1981.

The French government denied a

report printed by the usually well-informed weekly last week saying that Chirac had promised Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that France would help rebuild the reactor. Shrugging aside the denial, *Le Canard Enchaîné* in its latest issue cited no sources for its information but said the Chirac government aimed to reduce the power of the plant to avoid all possibility of Baghdad making nuclear weapons.

## Following death of two tourists

# Health Ministry to issue pamphlet on heat

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Post Science and Health Reporter

The Health Ministry plans to prepare pamphlets for tourists on how to cope with Israel's heat, following the death on Monday of an 18-year-old British girl and a 50-year-old American tourist, apparently from heat prostration.

The recommendation that information be published was made by Dr. Ya'acov Adler, director of the emergency room at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, where Etti Sabersky of London was pronounced dead after returning from the Dead Sea on a bus.

Dr. Adler told *The Jerusalem Post* that incidents in which tourists are affected, sometimes fatally, by the heat are "not uncommon," as they do not know how to behave in the heat. "It takes time for their bodies to acclimatize to the high temperatures. Until they spend a few weeks here, their bodies hold the heat in rather than release it to the air. No tourist should exert himself or go on a trip to a very hot area without getting used to the heat first," he declared. Israelis are generally used to coping with the high temperatures.

Dr. Adler made his recommendations late

Monday night to Dr. Alma Avni of the ministry's Department of Public Health, which so far has concentrated on informing Israelis here and those going abroad how to cope with the heat. Until

## No end in sight

TEL AVIV. — The weatherman was forced to backtrack from his earlier predictions that the heatwave would break by yesterday, and last night issued a revised forecast predicting hot weather until the weekend at least.

"The heat won't stop for another four days and that's as far as our charts go," duty weatherman Marco Marcel told *The Jerusalem Post* last night. He said the meteorological staff were nevertheless scouring their forecasting maps for something that might nudge the high pressure system from its current spot over the eastern Mediterranean.

now, it hadn't given much thought to foreign tourists who are here in the summer. Dr. Adler suggested that pamphlets be provided by travel agents abroad, as well as in Israeli tourist informa-

tion offices and hotels here.

Sabersky, who rented an apartment in Jerusalem with three other religious girls from England for a few weeks, went with them on a trip to the Dead Sea area by bus. She did not feel well before leaving, according to the girls, and they debated whether they should go at all. At Ma'ayan David, Sabersky had trouble climbing and had to be helped. She felt dizzy and had trouble descending. But they did not go to the clinic at the settlement for help.

On the bus returning to Jerusalem, there were no vacant seats, so the girls sat on the floor. Etti apparently went into a coma and died in the bus. Her friends thought she was asleep. Unsuccessful attempts were made to revive her when the bus reached its destination.

Her parents were on a visit to Switzerland, and their permission for an autopsy could not be obtained, so doctors are not 100 per cent sure that she was a victim of the heat. The teenager was buried in Jerusalem at noon yesterday, with distant relatives from Holland attending. Members of the Sabersky family in North London

(Continued on Back Page)

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## The weather at major Swissair destinations

	11.8.87	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	7	15	25	Clear
BRUSSELS	8	16	26	Clear
BUEENOS AIRES	12	18	24	Cloudy
CHICAGO	17	22	28	Clear
COPENHAGEN	11	15	21	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	9	18	26	Clear
GENEVA	11	16	24	Clear
HELSINKI	10	14	20	Cloudy
HONGKONG	27	28	30	Clear
JERUSALEM	17	21	27	Clear
LONDON	13	18	24	Cloudy
MADRID	17	21	27	Clear
MONTREAL	16	21	27	Clear
NEW YORK	18	22	28	Clear
OSLO	10	14	20	Cloudy
PARIS	13	18	24	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	12	18	24	Clear
SAO PAULO	9	14	20	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	9	14	20	Cloudy
TOKYO	26	27	28	Rain
TORONTO	14	18	24	Clear
VIENNA	12	17	23	Clear
ZURICH	10	15	21	Clear

\*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

Tel Aviv: 1 Ben Yehuda St. Tel. 02-5102500  
Jerusalem: 32 Jaffa St. 02-231373  
Haifa: 2 Sea Road, 04-334555  
Be'er Sheva: 38 Ha'Avot St. 057-35282  
Cargo: Ben-Gurion Airport, 03-6712151

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## THE WEATHER

Forecast: Normal seasonal temperatures.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	27	21-36	36
Golan	29	23-34	34
Nabatieh	73	24-31	31
Safad	18	24-35	35
Haifa Port	65	24-34	34
Tiberias	62	24-38	38
Nazareth	52	23-34	34
Afula	52	23-36	36
Shomron	40	20-36	36
Tel Aviv	67	25-32	32
B-G Airport	57	23-33	34
Jericho	37	27-43	43
Gaza	74	24-30	31
Beer Sheva	40	22-37	38
Eilat	17	29-44	44

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The Jerusalem Rotary Club luncheon will be held at the YMCA, King David St., at 1 p.m. today. Inon Shenkar will speak on "Educating Young People about AIDS."

## Birth

Varda (nee Rafaeli) and Amichai Ophel, a daughter, sister to Itamar, granddaughter to Esther and Alex Rafaeli and Sara and Nissim Muallem.

## Walkout leaves 4 fireman in Tel Aviv

By JONATHAN KARP

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**  
TEL AVIV. — Only four firemen remained on duty in this city yesterday after the fire brigade went on strike for higher wages.

Nearly 100 firemen and four teams of youth volunteers began what they called an "organized vacation" at 6 a.m. yesterday. Their spokesman, Zion Badash, said that they would not return to work until the city comes back to the negotiating table, around which the two sides have met sporadically during the last five months.

City spokesman Benny Cohen yesterday called the walk-out "scandalous" and said that the city had no intention of negotiating under such terms. He added that the city would apply today for a back-to-work court order if the firemen did not return on their own.

## 'Youth who killed sister fit to stand trial'

HAIFA (Itim). — A Pardes Hanna youth who allegedly killed his eight-year-old sister was remanded in custody for an additional 10 days in the district court here yesterday. This followed a decision by a court-appointed psychiatrist that the youngster was fit to stand trial.

The youth, 14, allegedly stabbed his sister to death on August 1 for telling his mother that he had stolen cigarettes from her father.

The defence attorney asked the court to suspend criminal proceedings until the psychiatrist issued his final report.

The youth told the court: "I remember what happened, but I don't know why it happened."

## Police release Gaza youth who gave false confession

GAZA (Itim). — A Rafiah youth who confessed stabbing an Arab Israeli was released yesterday after police concluded that his confession was false. But he may now face charges for giving false information.

The youth, 14, turned himself into the police on Saturday and told them he had stabbed an Arab Israeli last month because he thought the victim was a Jew. After two days of questioning, police decided he had made up the story.

The youth was reportedly depressed because a young cousin had committed suicide.

## TOMORROW - Haga (Civil Defence) Exercise in Kiryat Shemona

Tomorrow, Thursday, there will be a Haga exercise in Kiryat Shemona. Police, Magen David Adom, fire brigade and municipal emergency personnel will take part. During the exercise, sirens will be sounded. In the event of a real attack, the sirens will sound a rising and falling note.

A7182-16-22

## HOME NEWS

# Police to probe arms training for Kach campers

By ANDY COURT

For The Jerusalem Post

Police are checking whether members of MK Meir Kahane's Kach movement broke the law by running a summer camp in the Jerusalem Forest, where youths were reportedly taught how to use weapons and hold up under questioning by Shin Bet investigators.

Police Inspector-General David Kraus said yesterday that officers in the police's national headquarters would look into yesterday's report in *Yediot Aharonot* that 60 Kach youths, aged 14 to 18, were dismantling and reassembling weapons, singing pre-1948 Jewish underground songs with new lyrics, and receiving advice from their counselors on how to withstand investigation by Shin Bet security agents.

All this occurred during a week-long "training camp" run by Kach in a secluded area not far from the swimming pool in the Jerusalem Forest, the newspaper reported.

Education Minister Navon condemned the Kach camp yesterday and demanded that the police take action against the movement.

"There is a dangerous underground that intends to use arms to achieve its goals," Navon said. "The real problem is how society relates to these people, whether it will be forgiving and understanding, or whether a forceful and unambiguous stand will be taken against them."

Navon was joined by MK Chaika Grossman (Mapam), who has collected the necessary signatures to convene a special session of Knesset to discuss the Kach camp, according to Israel Television. MK Ran Cohen (Citizens Rights Movement) called for the arrest of the camp organizers and the investigation of all the youths involved.

Kach officials said that they had done nothing illegal and that they planned to open another week-long camp at another location on Sunday.

The camp described in the *Yediot* article ended early yesterday morning, not because of the publicity but according to the original timetable, said Kach spokesman Baruch Merzel.

"One of the central purposes of the camp is to motivate youths to volunteer for combat units in the army," Merzel said.

But a less wholesome picture emerged from the *Yediot* article, which quotes one camp counselor as saying: "If the government makes concessions [on territory], my soldiers will need to prove themselves. My soldiers learn how to get around obstacles and arrive at their goal without being caught."

One of the youths interviewed reportedly said: "The only thing that stands between me and the throwing of petrol bombs is fear...I don't give a hoot about the law."

The *Yediot* article described the paramilitary aspect of the camp, where the young Kach "soldiers" stood to attention, wearing their yellow shirts with the clenched fist Kach emblem.

Though the Kach youths claimed that police had visited them several times in the Jerusalem Forest, police spokesman Rafi Levy said that yesterday's article had brought the matter to the police's attention for the first time.

Kach officials say that they held four summer camps in 1986 and four so far this year at locations such as Moshav Nov (in the Golan) and Kiryat Arba.

By the end of the year, Kach officials hope to "train" 500-600 youths in similar camps, Merzel said.

## Knesset panels to hold second Lavi vote - after cabinet decision

By ASHER WALLFISH

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and the Finance Committee will hold a second discussion and vote again on producing the Lavi fighter only after the cabinet has made its decision on the matter, it emerged yesterday.

Following the endorsement of the Lavi at a joint meeting of both committees last Sunday by a vote of 22 against six with three abstentions, Abba Eban, chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, announced that he would seek another vote.

The demand for one came from Elazar Granot (Mapam), but was strongly supported by Eban and two of his Alignment colleagues on the Committee, Simha Dinizit and Binjamin Ben-Eliezer.

When Eban phoned to Europe to talk to Avraham Shapira, chairman of the Finance Committee, and asked for a joint session this Friday, the Aguda MK refused. Shapira said the second discussion would have to follow the cabinet vote, which may be held next Sunday, according to some reports.

In raising the demand, Granot said the second vote was essential, because such an important question

should not be decided by less than half the total membership of the two committees.

Granot also charged that the procedures prior to the vote of the two committees were irregular.

However, one advocate of the Lavi project, Benny Shalit (Likud), said that Eban wanted another vote because he did not know how to "lose gracefully." He said that the majority of 22 who voted for the project had a "profound grasp of the issue," while those who fail to attend the meeting had "voted with their feet." Hence they did not deserve "a prize in the form of another revote," Shalit said.

A like-minded Likud man, Pinchas Goldstein, said that since Eban stressed the two committees had produced no more than a recommendation, which was not binding on the cabinet, there was no purpose in voting again.

Goldstein said the Eban demand was merely a "parliamentary gimmick."

He said that those Israelis who oppose the Lavi claim that the U.S. Defence Department criticized the decision of the two committees without being able to prove the Pentagon had actually expressed any view.

## LAVI

(Continued from Page One)

In these circumstances, Pentagon officials "are likely to look askance at future Israeli requests that purport to be in the name of national security," Zackheim added.

An informed source very sympathetic to Israel's concerns said Israel Aircraft Industries is trying to portray the issue of the Lavi as a case of Israel versus Secretary of Defence Weinberger, who is considered by some to be too friendly to moderate Arab states.

"It is wrong to demonize Weinberger on the Lavi," the source said, adding that Secretary of State George Shultz feels just as strongly about it. Redman's statement yesterday, plus criticism by other senior U.S. officials, observers said, reflected deep consternation in the

top levels of the administration.

Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said his umbrella body did not voice an opinion on the Lavi. Yet he had reacted to the Redman statement by saying: "I trust that whatever decision is taken to continue or terminate will be taken by the U.S. to cushion the economic and human impact of any cessation of production will promote the common defence of these two democracies."

The new Israeli ambassador to Washington, Moshe Arad, had his first meeting with National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci yesterday, and the two discussed the Lavi, as well as the peace process and the situation in the Persian Gulf.

## GULF

(Continued from Page One)

anchorage point for U.S. convoys en route to Kuwait. The mining has reportedly shocked the shipping world.

Western military sources said the mine that blasted the Texaco Caribbean had apparently been placed by Iran to trap American warships, and could disrupt U.S. escort plans for Kuwaiti tankers.

The U.S. Navy has assembled its two convoys of reflagged Kuwaiti tankers off Fujairah to make the run through treacherous waters to Kuwait.

"News of further mining in the gulf area over the last 48 hours shows

that a new situation has arisen there," a British government statement said.

"It was not just the number of mines in various places, but the discovery of mines outside the Gulf altogether," said British Defence Minister George Younger, explaining what prompted the deployment.

The French minesweepers, and two support vessels, will join a French Naval Force steaming towards the Strait of Hormuz, according to Defence Minister Andre Giraud.

Omani helicopters swept at across the crowded anchorage off Fujairah, seeking more mines, witnesses said. The U.S. Navy also furnished helicopters at the request of the sultanate, said one diplomatic source.

One mine spotted by an Omani helicopter was about 100 metres from an anchoring tanker, and two others were in the vicinity, said one shipping source.

Military sources in the region said Iran had to be assumed responsible for the mining. Iran in turn has blamed the U.S. for the mines.



The Phantom 2000, upgraded version of the veteran airplane which first flew in 1958.

(Tuckman, Media)

# IAF unveils rejuvenated Phantom 2000

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

Post Defence Reporter

TEL NOF AIRBASE. — An upgraded Phantom, incorporating systems designed to propel it past the year 2000, made its maiden flight here yesterday afternoon.

Three years of research and development by the air force and some industries have given the plane more accurate navigation and weapons delivery systems, new wiring and systems designed to reduce the pilot's work load.

New radar was also installed and changes were made in the plane's frame to strengthen weak spots and the wings. Some 28 kilometres of wire were replaced with materials that reduce the plane's weight by 100 kilos.

New computers and communica-

tion equipment are believed to be at the level of the F-16C, and other changes improve the plane's stability and maneuverability, according to Tal Aluf Avner Raz, who heads the Equipment Group at the Air Force headquarters.

Test flights of the Phantom will now begin. There will be a second prototype next March, and serial work is to begin next July. The Air Force has already forwarded some Phantoms to Israel Aircraft Industries, but the first squadron of improved Phantoms, called "Kornas 2,000," is to be delivered only in the early 1990s.

Once serial work begins and initial hitches are worked out, it will take nine to 10 months to improve a Phantom, Raz predicted. The cost

per plane, not including R & D, will amount to \$5m-\$6m.

Phantoms have been flying with the Israel Air Force for some 15-16 years, and in the normal course of events should have been due for replacement soon. But the upgrading, offering a "not insignificant capability" in air-to-air battles and performances in air-to-ground operations, should extend the plane's life by some 15-20 years. For some tasks the Kfir and the Lavi offer no competition, he said.

A foreign expert familiar with the upgrading programme praised it. "It's going to be a good addition to the Israel Air Force," he told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Several foreign air forces have already shown an interest in the

project. Some 2,000 Phantoms still fly around the world, and upgrading them could be a cheaper alternative to buying the next generation of aircraft.

Making the changes the IAF is implementing, and changing the engine from the original J-79 to the PW 1120 used by the Lavi, will cost some \$10m. per plane, which is between one-third and one-quarter of the cost of a brand-new F-15 or F-18, said the Air Force's commander, Aluf Amos Lapidot.

Israel Aircraft Industries is trying to market a Phantom with the PW 1120 engine which it presented at the Paris Air Show in June. However, the IAF is not planning to change the engine as that would double the cost of the project.

## 'New' Trawniki cards dominate trial session

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The presence of three additional Trawniki identity cards supplied unexpectedly by the Soviet Union dominated the session of the Demjanjuk war crimes trial yesterday.

The prosecution succeeded in entering them into the proceedings conditionally and for a limited purpose. The way the defence saw it, the ID cards were "sneaked in by the back door."

The victory for the prosecution and defeat for the defence followed a terrific fight that enlivened an otherwise dull session. Defence counsel John Gill rose to his full height to protest at least a dozen times. Once he even raised his voice in what seemed like real anger.

"Please don't raise your voice," said court president Dov Levin. "If I sustain your objection, it's not because of the tone it is delivered in, but because it is justified."

The new identity cards are those of two Ukrainians and one Russian. Card No. 847 is that of Ivan Juchnowski, born in 1913 near Vinnitsa, and who later served as a guard at the Lemberg ghetto. Card No. 1926 is that of Nikola Bondarenko, who was born in 1922 and served at the Poniatov concentration camp. The Russian is Ivan Volembro, who was born in 1916. His card number is 1211 and it contains no record of where he served the SS.

The first two cards have photos, while the third does not.

The subject of the new ID cards was brought up by prosecutor Michael Shaked after about two hours, during which he continued the previous day's tough cross-examination of defence witness Edna Robertson.

Shaked told Robertson things like: "I think you decide on a theory first and then try to find proof for it." Or: "Either you are no expert or you are wrong about such-and-such statement."

Robertson: "I take great exception to when you say that I am not an expert."

Shaked also questioned Robertson's ability as a document photographer. "I have the impression you don't trust yourself."



DEMJEANJUK ON TRIAL

All this followed an hour during which Shaked questioned the standing of Wade, the World Association of Document Examiners, which is headed by Robertson. ("There is some screening. We take in people without background. We are unique in that we take in students and train them," Robertson had said.)

At one time Levin found it necessary to tell Shaked to soften his tone. "There is no need to be so abrasive."

But then, almost casually, Shaked came round to what really occupied him. "Yesterday I asked you whether the Demjanjuk card is the only identity card you have seen. Are you not interested to see others? Why don't you ask Gill to see others?"

Robertson: "I would like to see them under laboratory conditions, not just look at them."

Shaked: "There can be two phases; the preliminary and the laboratory one."

With this Shaked waved in front of the witness the cellophane envelope containing the light green ID card of Ivan Juchnowski.

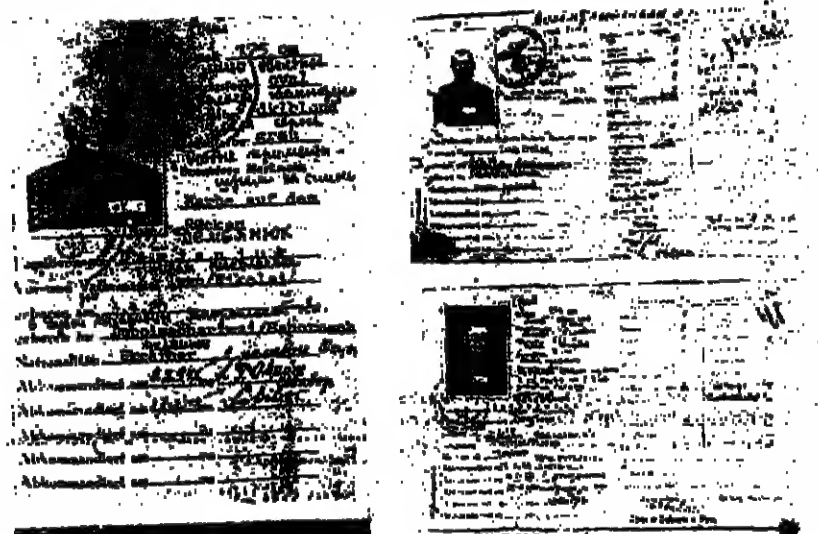
Gill objected heatedly: "This document is not going to be entered. According to the rules it must be submitted to the defence first."

Levin: "The question is whether Shaked can get the ID cards into evidence via the witness. What is your legal objection?"

Gill conferred with his fellow counsel Yoram Sheftel and then explained that since the prosecution had now rested its case, the documents could not be entered under some innocuous pretext, such as asking a witness a question based on them.

"It is against all the rules of evidence. We have had no opportunity to examine the documents under the rules of discovery," said Gill.

Shaked said in rebuttal that in



This combination photo shows the alleged Trawniki camp ID card of John Demjanjuk (left) and two others now supplied by the Soviet Union, one of a Russian (top) and the other of a Ukrainian. (Reuters)

cross-examination it was his job to check all relevant documents, regardless of their provenance: "It is not my duty to tell the defence what I intend to do."

Shaked went on to say that on Sunday morning - out of courtesy - he had telephoned Gill to let him know that he had received the three new ID cards from the Prime Minister's Office. (U.S. oil tycoon Armand Hammer delivered them there about ten days ago, according to *Yediot Aharonot*.)

Gill then came to Shaked's office and photocopied the documents. "He came again in the afternoon, so he was not in the dark," said Shaked.

"What are you trying to prove by introducing the new documents?" asked Levin.

Shaked: "I suppose that after seeing different elements in the new cards, the witness may change her concept regarding the Demjanjuk ID card."

Levin: "You just want to hear her reaction. You're not trying to prove that the three cards are true Trawniki cards?"

Shaked: "No, perhaps later we will try to do that. Now I want to submit one card, and the other two later."

Levin: "If it is admitted only for the limited purpose of comparison with Taf 149 (the Demjanjuk card), but not as independent proof of that document's authenticity."

Shaked: "There is a legal and a practical aspect. I can't introduce the cards via the witness; this is a compli-

cated legal matter. Now I only want to examine the card and check Mrs. Robertson's thesis regarding Taf 149."

Gill: "Cross-examination is not a licence to do away with the rules of discovery."

By the time it was close to the 1 p.m. recess, Levin said that one must differentiate in the use of the documents. "This happens frequently. A witness may change his answer as a result of new evidence. This does not mean that the document is actually in evidence."

After the three-hour noon recess Sheftel made a relatively restrained plea opposing the planned step. "You can't just spring any new document on a witness; there is a framework beyond which the prosecution can't go. Our witness needs time to adjust. We must have an opportunity to prepare her."

Having listed to Sheftel without commenting, Levin then proceeded to announce the court's decision.

"The cross-examination of Edna Robertson generally related to the Taf 149 ID card. Shaked wants to introduce new documents, to show the witness things which she commented on regarding Taf 149. He wants to restrict himself to this. According to the law, this is permissible. We overrule the objections by the defence."

With this decision, Shaked started to submit the first new ID card to Robertson, describing it as a *Dien-*

(Continued on page 9)

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# First fatality in SA strike

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters). - Clashes broke out at several mines yesterday after at least 230,000 black workers began South Africa's biggest industrial strike on Sunday night. Union officials and management blamed each other for the violence. There were no signs of an early settlement.

Meanwhile, a coal miner who apparently refused to strike was killed and his body found in bed yesterday at Witbank, 230 km. from here. The miner became the first fatality in the strike.

Officials of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), which called the strike at white-controlled gold and coal mines, said 14 miners were injured in clashes with guards late on Monday and 15 members of local strike committees were arrested.

NUM General Secretary Cyril Ramaphosa told reporters the strike could spread to a gold processing plant, Rand Refinery, where South Africa's gold is turned into bars.

He said 300 employees were voting in a strike ballot at the plant and this could lead to a stoppage.

NUM officials also reported violence and an unknown number of

casualties at mines near Welkom, southwest of Johannesburg, where miners who refused to strike armed themselves with pangas (machetes) and clashed with strikers and security guards.

Anglo American Corporation, the giant mining house, accused NUM of "disturbing incidents of intimidation" against non-strikers at 10 mines.

The Chamber of Mines, grouping the mining companies which are the foundation of South Africa's economy, said there had been sporadic violence, but the mines were relatively calm.

NUM said 340,000 workers in at least 44 mines were on strike even though only 200,000 had been called out.

The Chamber of Mines says up to 230,000 are on strike, seriously affecting 31 mines.

NUM, the biggest union in South Africa, demands a 30 per cent wage increase and danger pay. It vows not to call off the action until it wins.

NUM spokesman Marcel Golding said the strike was approaching a turning-point last night when it

would be 48 hours old, longer than previous miners' strikes.

Black miners, who receive no strike pay, earn on average about 500 rand (\$250) a month, roughly one-third as much as white miners, who are not on strike. Management is offering wage increases of up to 23.4 per cent, which would narrow the pay gap between whites and blacks.

The government has not intervened beyond threatening action against intimidation of non-strikers.

State-run South African Radio warned South Africa's emergent trade unions yesterday they were putting at risk reforms introduced in the past 10 years.

These include the 1979 legislation of trade unions and the scrapping of some apartheid race laws, although the relaxation largely ended when black unrest broke out three years ago.

Chamber of Mines President Naas Steenkamp welcomed the repeal by the government on Monday of a law reserving the best jobs in the mining industry for whites, saying it ended 75 years of race discrimination in the industry.



Miners raise clenched fists outside the Randfontein gold mine in South Africa as the wage strike went into its second day. (AFP telephoto)

## Iraq says it will keep hitting Iranian targets

BAGHDAD. - Iraq said yesterday it would attack Iranian economic and military targets until Tehran accepted a peaceful solution to the Gulf war based on last month's UN Security Council resolution.

"Our annihilating blows against enemy installations will continue to play an active and destructive role in causing a deterioration of its military, political and economic situation till it responds to the call of wisdom," said an editorial in *Al-Nahar*, a newspaper of Iraq's ruling Baath Party.

More than 10 Iraqi planes attacked refineries at Tabriz in northern Iran and five oil sites in central and southern Iran on Monday, ending a 25-day lull in air raids on Iranian economic targets.

Diplomats in Baghdad said they expected the attacks to aggravate the situation in the Persian Gulf and might push Iran into retaliating with strikes against shipping.

Baghdad said Monday's raids were "in retaliation for Iran's insistence on rejecting the Security Council resolution and its continued aggression against Iraq's international borders and its shelling of Iraqi residential areas."

In Cairo, Defence Minister Abdel Halem Abu Gazala said Egypt has supplied Iraq with large numbers of short-range surface-to-surface mis-

siles in recent years. The Egyptian-made missiles were of the Soviet B-M-21 type, with a range of 20.5 km., and had "enormously helped" Iraqi forces in their conflict with Iran, he said, during an inspection tour of an Egyptian armaments factory.

Tehran radio reported yesterday that Iranian Revolutionary Guards militiamen repelled an Iraqi assault near Sardasht in eastern Iran. It said Iraqi forces sustained heavy losses in the encounter on the northern front.

Meanwhile, the bodies of 49 Iranian pilgrims who died in disturbances in Mecca, arrived in Tehran yesterday. The Iranian news agency said the "martyrs of the Mecca massacre" were given a special ceremony at the airport and later were taken to the coroner's office.

Iran, which has said that the bodies of 322 Iranians have been received by a medical team in Saudi Arabia, last week announced the return to Tehran of 109 bodies.

In Geneva, police said an Iranian refugee was shot dead late Monday by two men "from the Gulf region" who succeeded in escaping. They said the man, a 36-year-old former Iranian air force pilot who asked for political asylum in Switzerland last February, was returning home with his wife when they were attacked. (Reuters, AFP)

## Greek group claims bomb that hit Americans

ATHENS. - The clandestine terrorist organization November 17 yesterday claimed responsibility for a car-bomb attack on Monday that set fire to a minibus, slightly injuring 11 people, nine of them U.S. servicemen.

The organization has carried out many anti-American attacks in recent years and claimed Monday's action in a communique sent to the Socialist daily *Eleftherotypia*.

Fire broke out in a Greek Army fuel dump adjoining the U.S. military base at Hellenikon, south of here, the Defence Ministry said, shortly after the car bombing.

Greek and U.S. military firemen brought the fuel dump fire under control.

Witnesses said the car blew up when two men on a motorcycle threw a Molotov Cocktail at it.

The Greek government condemned the attack and "all forms of terrorism, wherever they come from." The government statement said such attacks damaged "democracy and democratic institutions."

Some 5,000 U.S. troops are stationed in Greece. They have been the target of a number of previous attacks, none of them serious.

On April 24, a bus transporting 14 people, 12 of them U.S. servicemen, was bombed in an attack claimed by November 17.

Monday's attack comes shortly after a visit here by U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost.

Talks on the future of U.S. bases in Greece are due to start on September 4. Greece's Socialist government was elected in 1981 on a platform of removing the U.S. bases although it has subsequently said such a move is a long-term aim.

The November 17 group, named after the date of a student uprising against the ruling military dictatorship in 1973, has claimed credit for 11 political assassinations within the past 12 years.

The group's announcement termed the scheduled U.S.-Greek talks as "mere threats."

The current agreement covering the military installations, including four main bases and a score of small sites, expires at the end of 1988. (AFP, AP)

## Libyan jets striking deep inside Chad

N'DJAMENA (Reuters). - Chad said Libyan aircraft bombed three towns in the north of the country yesterday and carried out further air raids on the disputed town of Aouzou, recaptured by Chadian forces on Saturday after 14 years under Libyan control.

A military communique broadcast on national radio said Libyan planes bombed the northern oasis town of Faya-Largeau as well as the village of Ounianga-Kebir and the military base of Ouadi-Doum, both further north near the border with Libya.

Libyan planes also resumed their weekend raids on Chadian forces in Aouzou, located in the disputed Aouzou strip on the border between the two countries. There were no details of casualties or damage.

Chad said in a military communique on Sunday its forces killed 437 Libyan soldiers and took 61 prisoners when it moved into the disputed Aouzou region. The Chadian casualties, 17 dead and 54 injured, were expected to increase following the

reported bombing attacks.

The communique said the Libyan army was "shamelessly bombing the town of Aouzou and the surrounding villages," using rockets, scatter bombs and napalm for the second day running.

Libya said it was justified in striking back at Chad.

Chadian troops, after a series of stunning victories earlier this year, have proved they can defeat Gaddafi's forces on the ground. But Libya is undisputed master of the skies in northern Chad.

The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies said in late 1986 Libya had 489 combat aircraft, including seven Soviet-made Tupolev TU-22 bombers. Chad had two.

Chad captured some Libyan military hardware, including aircraft, when it took two airbases in March. But its forces are untrained in modern warfare and the country remains dependent on France for air defence assistance.

## Soviet psychiatry: Abuses being disclosed

By ANDREW WILSON  
MOSCOW. - The Soviet authorities have begun making public some facts about abuses in Soviet psychiatry. The disclosures do not touch on the highly sensitive subject of people committed for political reasons. But they could be seen as a prelude to admitting this in due course.

The government newspaper *Izvestia* was recently used to publicize some specific examples of abuse. According to the newspaper Zoya Petrovna, a math teacher, was so unhappy with the way doctors treated her cancer that she tried to bring an action against them. They then had their psychiatric colleagues certify her as schizophrenic, with the diagnosis: "Stubbornly persists in a truth-seeking delirium; exhibits delirious tendencies in a 'campaign for justice'."

And so, in the middle of the night, the doctors came in their white coats to take her away. Zoya locked herself in her mother's bedroom. Her mother had a heart attack, and another ambulance was called. Zoya called the police for help, and after a three-and-a-half hour siege the doc-

tors left, and Zoya took the case to higher authorities.

But a pensioner, Anna Ivanova, was less lucky. A militia officer grew so tired of dealing with her perpetual letters of complaint that neighbours in her communal flat were forcing her brother to drink, that he persuaded a psychiatrist to have the elderly woman certified.

They lured her into a mental hospital by telling her she could have a consultation about her brother with a doctor, and it was only when the door without a handle closed behind her that she realized what they had done.

Twenty years ago there were no set rules about incarcerating people in mental hospitals. An international outcry then arose following the disclosure by the Soviet scientist Zhores

Medvedev, himself a victim, that this was being used to "punish" and shut away political dissidents.

In 1977, a draft law was prepared by the Institute of State and Law giving citizens the right to appeal to a court if they felt they were being unjustifiably detained in a mental institution. But it never reached the statute books. The Ministry of Health objected, saying that Soviet doctors were the most humane in the world and needed no law to make difficulties for them in their work.

Today there is a set of rules on the matter. Thus a person who has been taken to a mental hospital is supposed to be examined by a commission of at least three psychiatrists to determine whether or not the diagnosis is correct.

But in practice many hospitals don't bother with the commission -

and it is usually the ward doctor who later looks in on the patient. With the seeming benevolence of the government, some doctors and lawyers are now calling for a new law that would give patients the right to be examined by a competent commission of several doctors before being isolated from society - and would give the patient recourse to the courts.

As for the abuse of psychiatry for political purposes, there appears to have been an unreported series of releases since the beginning of the year. But the authorities have in each case refused to admit that abuse occurred, or that the hospitalization was politically inspired. Estimates vary, but there would still be between 100 and 200 people still detained for political, religious or similar reasons. (London Observer Service)

## FOREIGN BRIEFS

### Three bombs kill 15 in Pakistan town

ISLAMABAD (AFP). - Three bombs rocked the town of Mardan in northwest Pakistan yesterday, killing 15 people and wounding at least 45, police and hospital officials said. The blasts were caused by time bombs.

Hospital officials in Mardan said that many of the bodies were blown to bits, and many of the injured had lost arms or legs.

It was the latest in a series of bomb attacks which have killed about 150 people in Pakistan this year.

### Soviet satellite falls to earth in Pacific

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (AFP). - A stricken Soviet satellite, launched on August 1, fell to earth Monday morning in the Pacific Ocean more than 4,000 km. north of New Zealand, the U.S. Air Defence Command announced here.

A spokesman said the satellite broke up as it hit the earth's atmosphere, adding that the U.S. would not try to recover it.

### Khassoggi's daughter denies marrying Gaddafi

TORONTO. - A young woman claiming to be Nabila Khassoggi, daughter of the Saudi oil magnate Adnan Khassoggi, has denied reports of a marriage between her and Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

"I am not engaged to Colonel Gaddafi; I am not married to Colonel Gaddafi, I have never met him and I have never gone to Libya," she said during a telephone interview with the Canadian press. She is here on a visit with friends.

### King Hussein celebrates 35-year reign

AMMAN (Reuters). - King Hussein, the Arab world's longest-serving monarch, yesterday celebrated 35 years on the throne of Jordan.

He received congratulatory cables from rulers across the Arab and Islamic worlds, the official news agency Petra said. Now 51, he was proclaimed king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at the age of 16 and formally acceded the following year.

### School head jailed after 28 pupils die in toilet

PEKING (Reuters). - The headmaster of a school where 28 pupils died when the floor of the toilet collapsed has been jailed for three years, the official New China News Agency said yesterday. His deputy was jailed for two years.

Forty-five other pupils were also pitched through the floor of the badly built toilet at the primary school in the south-eastern province of Jiangxi last January.

Their sentences were among 1,498 cases of the dereliction of duty brought to court in the first five months of this year, the agency said.

### Plane plunges into Munich restaurant, killing 6

MUNICH (Reuters). - A light aircraft crashed into a MacDonald's hamburger restaurant in Munich killing six people and injuring several others.

A police spokesman said the Piper plane plunged into the restaurant in the Munich suburb of Trudering, near the city's airport, setting the building and parked cars ablaze.

### Fire sweeps Greek holiday isle of Rhodes

RHODES (AFP). - Tourists fled their hotels and villages were evacuated as a raging forest fire swept the Greek island of Rhodes yesterday.

The governor of the Dodecanese region, Yannis Macharaidis, said that 10,000 hectares had been affected by flames. The fire, which started in the mountainous and inaccessible eastern part of the island, caused frightened vacationers to leave their hotels for the main town of Rhodes. Three villages were evacuated.

Other small fires were reported on the island of Samos.

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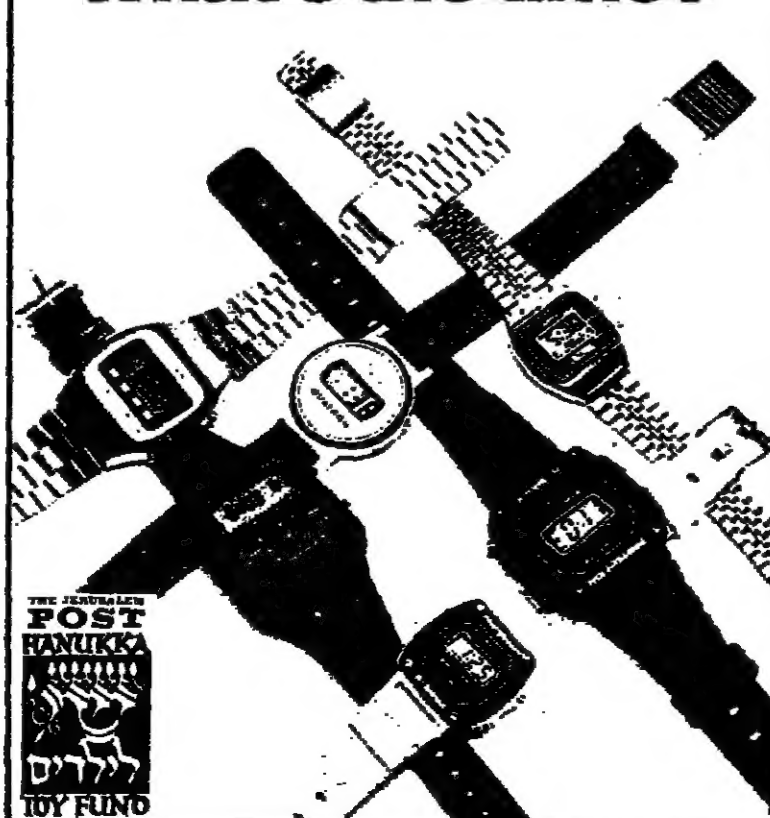
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Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar voted in the joint meeting on Sunday of the Finance and Foreign Affairs and Defence Committees to continue development of the Lavi attack plane. In this interview with Post Defence Reporter Joshua Brilliant he tells why:

## Ben-Elissar: budgets can be reduced to save the Lavi

Defence and other budgets can be trimmed to provide the funds needed to develop and produce the Lavi, Eliahu Ben-Elissar said yesterday. He argued that even Defence Minister Rabin, who has spoken out strongly against the Lavi, would be willing to build it if his budget were increased by \$220 million a year.

"I can certainly compromise on a lower figure, say \$150m-\$120m," Ben-Elissar said. "So Israel Aircraft Industries can cut costs and we can quickly find other resources. After all, Israel's budget totals more than \$20 billion."

Ben-Elissar, a former chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, rejected arguments that the parliamentarians were "forcing the military into using weapons they don't want."

"The army people aren't unified on this matter," he said. Former chief of general staff Mordechai Gur, now a Labour member of the Foreign Affairs of the Defence Committee supported the project and then turned against it, while his successor, Rafael Eitan of Tehiya, opposed the project and now supports it, he contended.

"For a long time Rabin himself didn't oppose the plan that vociferously," Ben-Elissar said. "He's been a minister for three years, and he didn't stop it."

Ben-Elissar conceded that the next air force commander, Aluf Avihu Bin-Nun, has persistently opposed the project, but noted the incumbent commander Amos Lapidot and their predecessors David Ivi and Mordechai Hod favour producing the plane.

"So," Ben-Elissar argued, "one cannot regard the army's position as clear-cut."

Rabin's claims that the defence industries are already too big for Israel are "stupidity of the first degree," he continued.

"I hear from many places that there has been no all-out effort to export more. A serious effort to adapt weapons systems for export hasn't been made."

"Why not give the defence industries more independence, make them more competitive?" Ben-Elissar asked.

"The easiest thing is to kill the Lavi project and go to the funeral," he added.

"They say we must prepare for the future battlefield and reduce [our forces] attrition - which cannot be done with the Lavi. Or else we have the Lavi and fail to prepare ourselves for the future battlefield, as well as fail to reduce the projected attrition - and then we, the parliamentarians, the political echelon, will be responsible for the rate of attrition."

"Come on! Where were they during the days of Arens and Sharon [as ministers of defence]? Where were they during Rabin's first days in office? Their argument today seems like blackmail to increase the defence budget."

"The army's reaction to the Knesset committee's decision also smacked of putschism."

"I voted openly for the plane, while the press quoted anonymous sources in the defence establishment as saying we ought to be ashamed of ourselves for wanting to protect our seats and being influenced by electoral considerations. Me?"

### Doctors released on bail after nose-job death

TEL AVIV (Itim). - The director of a private hospital, his wife, and a surgeon, who were charged with causing the death of a patient, were released yesterday by a magistrate's court here on bail of NIS 2,500 each.

Police told the court that on July 7, Dr. Reuven Silnav performed cosmetic surgery on 17-year-old Tali Havisha in the private hospital of Dr. Mordechai Paz in Bat Yam. Two hours after surgery to correct her nose, Havisha died.

An autopsy established medical negligence as the cause of death, a finding that was later confirmed by a Health Ministry panel. Paz, his wife

Luciana, a nurse at the hospital, and Silnav were charged with causing her death.

Police also told the court that the suspects tried to suborn witnesses during the police investigation.

Police did not object to yesterday's release because they said their investigation had been completed. Silnav was released a day earlier, when he had a heart attack.

LOTTO. - The winning numbers in this week's national lottery draw were 1, 14, 21, 28, 32, 33 and the additional number, 40.

## Computer helps CP boy to celebrate bar mitzva

By JUDY SIEGEL

Yan Sheinfeld will celebrate his bar mitzva tomorrow in a synagogue in Ramat Aviv, where he will recite the blessings, chant the Tora portion and deliver an emotional speech thanking his parents for their care and guidance. Yet he has never spoken a word aloud.

A victim of cerebral palsy, Yan is paralyzed and can move only his head. A computer that allows him to produce artificial speech by moving his head will make possible his bar mitzva ceremony.

Yan was brought by his parents to Israel from the USSR when he was only seven months old. It took years before Amelia and Benny Sheinfeld were able to understand the full significance of their son's handicap. Two more - normal - children, Teddy and Eldad, were born to the couple here.

Yan, determined from the start to overcome his handicap, learned both Hebrew and Russian fluently, although he was never able to speak the languages. But he draws, writes and communicates on a computer at the Herzfeld School in Tel Aviv, where he goes every day from his Holon home. He communicates with others using a system called Blissymbols, a graphic, meaning-based communications system, some of whose symbols are pictographs. His Blissymbols are arranged on a chart

attached to his wheelchair, and Yan - believed by his teachers to have a high IQ - communicates what he wants to say by indicating the symbols with his eyes.

Yan wanted to have a bar mitzva, like all boys his age. Nearly two years ago, he met Dr. John Eulenberg, director of the artificial language laboratory at Michigan State University, when he was attending an international conference in Israel. Eulenberg explained his work with a talking computer, and Yan dreamed of using one to speak in Hebrew.

Lee Kwellor of Pittsburgh was the first non-speaking cerebral palsy child to perform his own bar mitzva ceremony. Yan - tomorrow - will be the second child anywhere, and the first Israeli, to do so. Eulenberg, who arrived here a few weeks ago with a specially adapted, portable computer that is programmed to "speak" Hebrew, says that Yan's case is much more of a challenge. "He will chant in Hebrew, and he will also speak several words in Russian."

The reason for the Russian is that Yan has been "twinning" with Israel Shapiro, the son of Lev Shapiro, who has been a refusenik in Leningrad for over seven years. Israel, who will be 13 this winter, will celebrate an early bar mitzva simultaneously with Yan, although separated by

thousands of kilometres. Israel's grandparents, who live here, will attend Yan's bar mitzva in Ramat Aviv.

Yan's portable computer is the only one of its kind in Israel. His mother explains that infrared sensors will pick up the precise movements of Yan's head and translate them into the chanting, or speaking, of Hebrew or Russian words. They purposely chose a Thursday for the ceremony, rather than Shabbat, because of the use of the electronic computer; they also decided to hold it in a Reform synagogue, so that their 220 family members and friends, men and women, can sit together.

The ceremony will be presided over by Kinneret Shiryon, the first and so far only practising Reform woman rabbi in Israel. She has worked with Yan once a week for months to prepare him for the event.

Dozens of other people, including clinical speech therapist Judy Seligman-Wine, experts from the Milbat company (which helped with technical matters), and therapists from the Herzfeld School have been working with Yan for years.

Eulenberg says that the bar mitzva project has cost nearly \$100,000 so far, including the unusual computer equipment, and that donations have failed to cover more than half that amount. As a result of the



Yan Sheinfeld with his mother, Amelia.

pioneering project here, he hopes that computers that produce artificial language will eventually become the daily communication tool of some of the estimated 10,000 children and adults who could use it. These include not only cerebral palsy victims, but also those who have had strokes or are afflicted with multiple sclerosis, war and accident victims and the blind (who need talking computers to read).

"After the bar mitzva, we don't intend abandoning Yan," says Eulenberg. "We hope to stay with him and help him communicate so that he can become as independent as possible."

Eulenberg will lecture on Friday

at the Weizmann Institute about his research and the implementation of artificial speech for the handicapped. He is also training Israeli educators and therapists to use the devices.

Amelia Sheinfeld dreams of the day when Yan's computer will enable him, as an adult, to support himself in a profession. In order to purchase talking computers and help pay for the training of children like Yan, a group of supporters have set up a voluntary society to raise funds. Contributions may be sent to the Society for the Development of Blissymbols in Israel, the First International Bank, Kiryat Yovel branch, Jerusalem, account no. 105073423.

## Britain rejects Vanunu claim No evidence of abduction by Israel

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent LONDON. - The British government has rejected Meir Vanunu's plea that it investigate his brother Mordechai's "abduction" and make an official protest to the Israeli government.

A Foreign Office spokesman told The Jerusalem Post yesterday that allegations of an Israeli plot to kidnap Vanunu had been investigated last October, and no evidence had been found.

"We keep hearing of new evidence, and growing evidence, but the fact is that there has been no evidence whatsoever to back up Meir Vanunu's claims," said the spokesman. "His version of events, as detailed in the newspapers on Sunday, quite frankly adds nothing to the sum of human knowledge."

At the Home Office and Scotland Yard, spokesmen said that there were "no plans at present" to investigate Vanunu's alleged abduction by Israeli secret service agents.

No new information has been passed to the Home Office, a spokesman said, while Scotland Yard

stated that there was no inquiry in progress, and that no investigation would be launched without new evidence.

On Sunday, Meir Vanunu called for a police inquiry into his brother's "kidnapping," claiming that the "Israeli kidnap plot" had been hatched in London and that, therefore, there were grounds for a British investigation.

Mordechai Vanunu, the former Dimona nuclear technician who sold the "secrets" of Israel's nuclear arsenal to The Sunday Times last autumn, was lured from Britain to Italy by a female Mossad agent last September, and was then drugged and taken back to Israel by boat, according to Meir.

Meir has described his brother's enforced return to Israel to face trial as "a terrorist action" and has called on Britain to "act against it, as they have acted many times against terror actions."

In conversation with The Post yesterday, Meir seemed anxious about the effect of his latest "revelations" on public opinion in Israel. He

hoped that his story would increase public sympathy for Mordechai.

The main focus of the Vanunu "kidnapping" has now shifted to Italy, where investigators are studying Meir Vanunu's story, which he claims Mordechai detailed to him when he visited his brother in jail in Israel.

Representatives of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, the British organization that sponsored Vanunu's nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize, are flying to Italy next week to mobilize support among Italian parliamentarians for an inquiry into the Vanunu "abduction."

The foundation's Ken Coates told The Post that, if Meir Vanunu's version of events were substantiated, Mordechai ought to be repatriated to Italy and action taken against Israel.

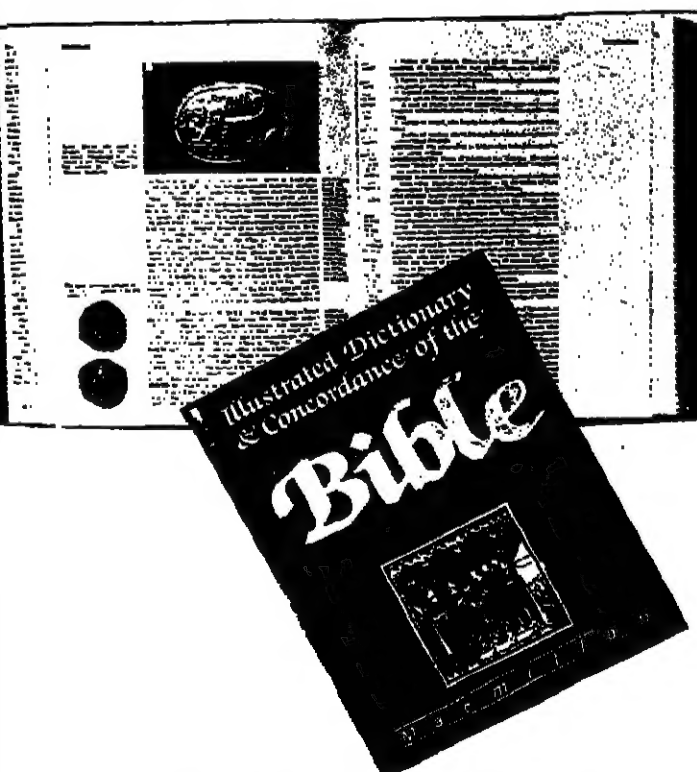
Coates predicted that evidence in support of Meir Vanunu's allegations would be forthcoming in the next fortnight, and said he believed that numerous British, French, German and Italian MPs would support the call for Vanunu's return to Italy.



Mordechai (left) and Meir Vanunu.

(Scoop 80, Media)

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### J'lem electric co. pushes for more government aid

By JOEL GREENBERG

Officials of the Jerusalem District Electricity Company are to push for Israeli government aid at a meeting this morning with Energy Minister Moshe Shalun on the recent cabinet decision to reduce the Arab company's concession area.

The JDEC board of directors met yesterday at the company's East Jerusalem offices to discuss responses to the cabinet decision, as angry workers demonstrated outside the building against any reduction in the firm's concession.

Arriving board members were met by workers who carried signs with slogans charging that the Israeli move had been coordinated with Jordan, and was a first step towards a total takeover of the firm. JDEC workers are concerned over layoffs under the new concession terms, and say the cabinet decision is a political move against a major Palestinian enterprise.

The cabinet decided Sunday that the company's concession would be renewed for 10 years, but the firm would no longer supply power to West Bank settlements and army bases, or to Jewish neighbourhoods in East Jerusalem. The concession is due to expire at the end of this year.

JDEC board chairman Hanna Nasser said he would raise with Shalun two points which he said remained unclear following the cabinet decision: the first is the level of government aid to the company to compensate some 200 workers who are to be laid off and to upgrade the company's equipment during the first two years of its renewed concession. Nasser says the company needs 10 million to survive.

The second concerns a guarantee of an improved profit margin for the company under its new concession terms. JDEC officials have maintained that an insufficient profit margin has contributed to the company's growing debt to the Israel Electric Corporation. From which it buys 95 per cent of its power. The debt stands at NIS 33 million.

### 71,107 receive IDF rehabilitation aid

TEL AVIV (Itim). - The Defence Ministry's Rehabilitation Branch provides services to 71,107 people, including 52,549 war injured, 10,598 bereaved parents, 3,337 widows and 4,623 orphans, the ministry announced yesterday.

### Adopted child must convert again - court

Adopted children who were converted to Judaism as infants must undergo a second conversion when they reach maturity, according to a recent Jerusalem Rabbinical Court decision.

Details of the decision were revealed yesterday by Rabbi Simcha Kook, chief rabbi of Rehovot, at a conference organized at the Rav Kook Yeshiva in Jerusalem.

Conversion must be an act of free will and cannot be forced on an individual, Kook said in explaining the court ruling.

He said that Brazilian babies adopted by Israelis must be informed by their parents when they get older that they were adopted and converted to Judaism. Such children have the right to reject the conversion and revert back to their former religion.

Kook said that some halachic authorities hold that adopted children should not be converted until they are old enough to give their consent. Others say that the conversion should take place at infancy and then be repeated - including a symbolic circumcision and immersion in a ritual bath - at a later age. (Itim)

### Queue behaviour No arguing with a machine

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

HAIFA. - Even the recurring heatwaves have been unable to spoil the coolest queues in Israel - those at the automatic bank dispensers outside the banks.

Bankomat queuers wait their turn patiently. They don't try to get in front of each other and even assist the little old ladies who are stumped by the simple mechanics of the apparatus.

A Haifa University psychologist, Prof. Yohanan Hoffman, told The Post that this confirms with the well-known dynamics of crowd behaviour. People will behave differently in a crowd such as a queue, from the way they will on their own, he says. The crowd works both ways, inhibiting and reinforcing behaviour.

At the automatic teller, the crowd had a calming effect, "probably because the queue is homogenous, each person having the same objective and each knowing exactly what he has to do to achieve it. Even more important, the task to be performed is identical for every one."

He noted that stress and anxiety, which are frequently encountered in queues, can improve performance and behaviour, as shown by well-

prepared students who do their best under the stress of an exam.

The unruliness of Israeli queues largely reflects that "we have not yet developed a clear, common norm for behaviour in public," Hoffman says. "When we are under pressure, as when we have to wait in line, our behaviour tends to become more unruly than usual."

In queues at a bus stop or a clinic, for example, the people come from widely varying backgrounds. Each individual has his or her own norm of behaviour and is not sure how others will behave, so they strive to get ahead.

Transfer the orderly queue from the Bankomat to inside the airconditioned bank to wait for a human teller, and they will revert to "normal" Israeli patterns "because they now have different objectives," withdrawing or depositing cash, paying bills or checking their accounts. "The more homogenous a queue is the more orderly it will be," Hoffman notes.

Is there a lesson for us in the Bankomat queues? Possibly the installation of mechanical ticket dispensers at bus stops or in places that develop large queues. You don't argue with machines.

## Thatcher loath to tackle Iran arms suppliers Business as usual at Teheran's arms buying centre in London

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent LONDON. - It's business as usual at "The Post Office," Iran's central London arms procurement headquarters, which makes Britain's much-publicized pressure this week for a UN arms embargo on Teheran disingenuous, to say the least.

Prime Minister and the Foreign Office have been in touch with the other permanent members of the Security Council this week, trying to drum up support for an embargo. France and the U.S. have reportedly been convinced, while the USSR and China are expected to follow the lead of UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, who have not yet made his position clear.

Laudable though the British pressure undoubtedly is, the government's professed efforts to isolate Teheran are being undermined in its

own Westminster backyard, and in full view of the public.

Although the name-plate at No. 4 Victoria Street reads "National Iranian Oil Company," there are few people now who are unaware of the activities on the top three floors of the nondescript office block.

The Thatcher government certainly knows that 50 Iranians work a nine-to-five day there, buying weapons for the Islamic Revolution; but so far it has done nothing to thwart them.

Reports last week suggested that 50 British companies were under customs investigation for smuggling arms to Iran, a multi-million dollar operation controlled directly by the men at Victoria Street.

While some customs officials now describe these reports as "exaggerated," seven firms have been prose-

cuted since 1983, and most of them were using genuine Department of Trade export licences to get their cargoes shipped to Iran.

According to the Stockholm-based International Peace Research Institute, the British government is far too complacent when it comes to issuing these licences.

Although government guidelines prohibit the export of offensive weaponry to the Gulf combatants, the institute believes that spare parts, small arms and ammunition are being shipped out in sufficiently small packages to evade customs investigators.

Britain was the second biggest arms supplier to the shah in the 1970s, and spares for the Chieftain tanks, armoured cars and missiles sold a decade ago are still finding their way to Teheran.

According to the Stockholm Insti-

tute, "Iran will pay two or three times the going rate to get the weapons and parts it needs. In Britain, the best tactic is to place small orders with a lot of firms, so that deals are never large enough to attract attention."

"Small-sized spare parts for a weapons system look like industrial or electrical components. They can easily be labelled as industrial machinery and taken through customs."

Liberal leader David Steel is just one of those who have urged Thatcher to close the Victoria Street office, but the prime minister has claimed that the export guidelines are strict enough to prevent any illegal dealings, and has stated that she sees no purpose in preventing British defence companies conducting legitimate business with Teheran.

Those "legitimate" sales, according to last week's reports, have included anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles, jet-fighter guidance systems, rockets and small arms, all shipped to Iran during the last three years.

The government itself has approved the sale of 3,000 Land Rovers to Teheran, and a \$400m. package of Plessey radar equipment. When questioned over that radar package last year, government spokesmen claimed that the air-defence radars would be sited away from the war zone. It neglected to say that they are mounted on trailers for easy transportation.

A crackdown on the Victoria Street office, and all trade with Iran, was expected after the diplomatic row between the two countries earlier this summer. It was not forthcoming.





Fastest chip in the world - an Israeli invention: the Digital Signal Processor

## Blue and white chip

A NEW computer chip, said by its developers to be the fastest in the world, has been developed in Israel.

The chip, Digital Signal Processor 56001, is the result of three years of research by a team of 30 engineers at the Motorola-Semiconductor company in Ramat Gan. According to its developers, the new chip is capable of performing 10 million multiplications per second, a speed that makes it the world's fastest chip.

Chips are the heart of computer systems, responsible for performing the data computations stored in the machines' memory banks and channeling the results to activate each machine's various functions.

Measuring 12 by 13 millimetres, and only one millimetre thick, the new chip contains 400,000 transistors. If placed in telephones, televisions, video equipment and sound processing systems the chip enables voice communication with compu-

ters. The chip will enhance telecommunication systems by allowing users to leave voice messages that will be transferred automatically to the correct addressee. Baking ovens and air conditioning systems can be monitored and operated by remote control with the aid of the new chip.

In addition to its 'civilian' applications, the new chip has military uses such as high-speed communication, coded message transmission, remote-controlled robots and weapon systems, and image enhancement of aerial and satellite photography.

Six million dollars were invested in developing the new chip, according to Zvi Sucha, general manager of Motorola-Semiconductor. The Israeli team, headed by Elhanan Roshnik and Yehuda Schayek, utilized advanced technology and developed its own methods to complete the project. **DORON PELY**

## Small is beautiful

Ken Schachter

IN THE BEGINNING, computers had awe-inspiring names like Brainiac, took up as much space as a football field and required environmental control that would be the envy of most newborns.

Time marches on. Computing has been revolutionized in a few short decades and a reflection of that trend is a new line of mini-computers from IBM. Though far from revolutionary, the 9370 line provides a good benchmark of how far computer engineering has advanced.

The entry-level 9373, for example, is the size of a small refrigerator. Like its brothers in the 9370 line, it needs no special cooling system and can be operated at temperatures of from 10-40 degrees Centigrade - a wider range than most office workers have.

It also doesn't require a "floating floor," a raised platform used to ventilate many computers from the bottom and to create a space for the multitude of wires running to and

from. Taking a cue from their microcomputers, found on desktops around the world, IBM has created a system of expansion slots into which can be plugged logic cards that allow the computer to handle communications lines, local-area networks and other devices.

Perhaps most remarkable of all, the units are designed to be so simple that they can be installed by the user, a far cry from the morass of wires and pulsating vacuum tubes in early computers.

Still, it should be remembered that the 9370 is at the bottom end of the mini market, just a step above the micro-computer line. The bigger brothers of the 9370 series - the 6381 and 3090 computers - do require more space and more care.

But for businesses or departments that need to run from 20-200 terminals, the 9370 line can offer main-frame power in an unobtrusive package. And though the 9370 price range of from \$75,000 to \$300,000 doesn't lend itself to any impulse purchases at the checkout stand, computer devotees should remember Brainiac.

## Games people play

Doron Pely

THERE IS no better time than a vacation to rediscover the hidden entertainment and educational potential of your family's dusty home computer.

The shelves in computer stores are bulging under the load of computer games, educational programs and hybrids of both. Some of the games are outright boring or stupid, some are noisy and some are thought provoking. It pays to shop patiently. Don't wait until you get home with the disk to discover you've purchased something you don't want or need. Ask for a demonstration in the store.

The computer system most generously endowed with games is Commodore in all its varieties. There are hundreds of games to choose from, starting with simple drawing kits to various adventures and "Ninja" games for the young killer-in-training, and a range of aircraft, submarine and spacecraft simulators. Prices vary from NIS 17 to NIS 200, depending on the game and the computer. Cassettes are generally cheaper than disks.

The present rage among young players is for violence in the "Ninja" mould: Ghostbusters, Exploding fists, Zoro and Bruce Lee to name a few. Surprisingly, the idea is always the same: attacked by hordes of evil enemies the hero fights back. Digital blood may be less nauseating than that seen on videos, but it's difficult to justify shelling out for war-games just to improve your kids' reflexes. If you must go for blood, the aerial dog-fight and space-invaders game might do the trick.

Most of the above-mentioned games are available for all existing brands of home computers. Make sure the package you buy is marked clearly with the name of your computer. Since most computers differ in their architecture, transferring disks or cassettes from one machine to another usually fails.

EDUCATIONAL computer games represent an area where Israeli programmers and teachers shine. Modern educational computer programs are not meant to replace teachers, the aim of a computerized lesson being to reinforce and help with revision of material learnt in class.

There are tutorial programs

available on just about any subject and for any computer - History, Geography, Hebrew, English, and Jewish studies to name but a few. Since there are similar programs for different age groups, make sure that the correct age is marked on the package. Prices for educational programs range from NIS 47 to NIS 100.

IF YOU OWN an IBM PC or a compatible machine, and if you find shop prices too stiff, you might want to try PC-SIG's catalogue of public-domain programs. PC-SIG is an American company specializing in selling computer programs that are not copyright protected. The company is represented in Israel by Mabam, and currently there are 80 selections (disks) on the Israeli company's mail order catalogue. Mabam says the selection will rapidly increase to 800 different disks. The present selection includes games, compilers, wordprocessors, data bases, educational, music and graphic programs.

The price for each PC-SIG's disk is NIS 25. Marketing is done in cooperation with the Tel Aviv computer publishing house Anashim Vemachshevim. There is an element of gambling in ordering by mail: You don't get to see the merchandise until long after you've purchased an unwanted commodity.

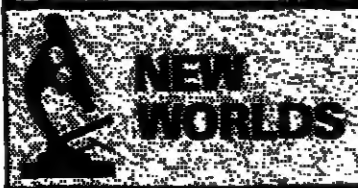
JUST WHEN you thought home videogames were gone for good, these masters of bells, whistles, and sparks are back in force, revived by advances in technology and shrinking price tags.

The comeback of videogames started in Japan, where home computers never made it due to the difficulty of adapting them to the intricacies of the Japanese alphabet.

"Users rejected the Atari-style videogames when the home computer hit the market. Now they want to buy game machines just for entertainment's sake," says Amir Segal, marketing director at Bug, the computer books and software centre in Tel Aviv.

Bug is marketing in Israel the Sega Master System, a videogame that can play arcade-quality games on a television screen. Sega comes equipped with a pair of joysticks and one game cartridge. Additional cartridges can be bought and there are 30 games available. An optional infra-red pistol and 3-D glasses will add real punch to the games (war-games of course).

## Controlling our MKs



Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

THE BEHAVIOUR of Knesset members is not always controllable, but their presence in the parliament building can now be accurately determined thanks to a computer-controlled system recently installed.

There are 120 buttons on the control board, one for each MK. When an MK enters the building, the guard at the entrance presses a button near his or her name. The information is sent electronically to the computer, which stores the information until it is needed.

This not only allows Knesset telephone operators to keep tabs on which MKs are in the building, but also gives an immediate picture of how many cabinet members and which parties are represented at any given moment. Arye Fischel, head of the Knesset's computer unit, says that the new system - which replaces an inadequate mechanical system using simple push-button lights - is much more efficient and saves time.

RAFAEL, the arms development authority, has just purchased eight laser-computer publishing units that can set up and print in Hebrew. The desk-top publishing units, called Xerox-Documents, comprise the largest sale of these expensive units to a single customer in Israel. The system was first exhibited here only a few months ago.

Laser-assisted desk-top publishing has been in use for a few years

abroad, but only recently was the system translated into Hebrew by a team headed by Israeli typography expert Zvi Narkiss in the U.S.

Laser printing allows a person to publish his own magazines, books and other printed materials, preparing the graphic work on the screen and printing it in very clear, printing-press-quality type.

Dr. Uri Bloch, a senior engineer at Rafael, says that the Xerox system was chosen after long trials to find the best quality, and because it easily allows printing in Hebrew and English together.

COMPUTER GRADUATES have been in the doldrums for months, as the number of new openings in many computer-related fields has been dropping. But the latest survey, conducted in May, shows a healthy 68 per cent increase in demand for computer-related manpower. The survey studied want ads in the major newspaper classified sections.

The Liran computer company, which conducted the survey, found that 380 computer jobs were being offered in May, compared with only 226 in April. Demand rose by between 38 and 200 per cent in the various fields. The most in demand are computer salespersons, programmers, engineers and systems analysts. But there was not even one job open for programming technicians in May. Liran did not explain the reasons for the upsurge in demand for computer professionals in general.

FOREIGN TOURISTS in Paris will have an easy time changing their money into French francs, or any other major currency for that matter. Automatic changing machines have been installed on the Champs Elysees. All you have to do is insert bills into the machine on the wall and

you will receive the equivalent in the currency you request. The equivalent is calculated according to the official rate, so if you want to get a higher black-market rate, you will have to go to your favourite hole in the wall, rather than the above-board machine on the wall. The service operates 24 hours a day.

SPORTS COACHES may one day be able to improve the performance of their teams with the help of computers.

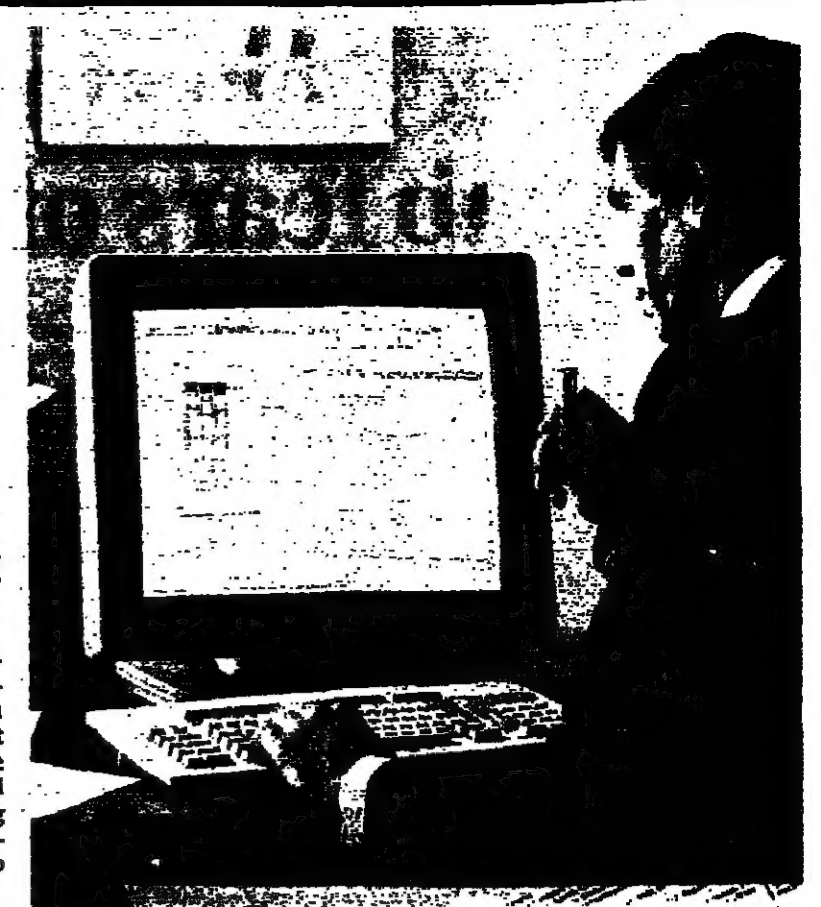
Ron Huston and Tim King of the University of Cincinnati's department of mechanics are studying the energy and movement involved in throwing missiles such as baseballs. They began with the dart throw, which is the simplest motion because its only aim is precision. Then they graduated to baseball pitching, which is much more complex.

According to an article in August's *Popular Science*, pitching involves being on two feet, then on one, then back to two feet again. It involves almost every part of the body, including the toes. A baseball pitcher goes through a lot of twisting and stretching movement. Now Huston and King have moved on to basketball foul shots.

Using computers, they are trying to quantify these complex movements and apply them to robots. The long-term goal is to apply the information they learn and to build less jerky, and, hence, more energy-efficient robots.

In the meantime, they have found that muscle mass has little to do with athletic performance. How well you throw is not related to height or weight, but to your technique, they say. The best throws involve the sportsman expending the least amount of energy. Plotting it on a graph, the two found that the best throws show a circular graph signifying smooth movement. "Our objective," says King, "is to quantify the creative art of human movement."

A CAM (computer-aided manufacturing) device that can collect data in "real time" (while it's happening) from the factory floor is now being offered by the Sintel company at the



Rafael buys eight Xerox-Documents units.

Haifa Technion. The new device allows two-way conversation between the worker on the production line and the person in charge of coordinating manufacture.

This allows you to follow the input of raw materials and their manufacture, as well as to add more manpower if the need arises. It also helps deal with accidents or breakdowns.

Data can be sent to the computer manually, or with an automatic reading of a bar-code, the reading of magnetic tapes or even a laser gun. The small devices can deal with 1,000 different manufacturing functions using only a few keys.

Michael Kosovitz, director of Sintel, says that the devices have already been installed in a security-related company in the north, as well as in El-Op in Ness Ziona. The device, named S-180, was developed

with help from the chief scientist of the Industry and Trade Ministry.

IBM SCIENTISTS in Yorktown, New York, have succeeded in producing the shortest electrical pulse ever measured anywhere in the world. The pulse lasts just half a picosecond (half a trillionth of a second). They say that it will lead to a breakthrough in the future production of computer components.

The IBM scientists used lasers and an especially quick switching apparatus to do it. Until now, no one has been able to produce an electrical pulse shorter than one picosecond. The main use of the shortest-ever electrical pulse will be the operation of rapid electronic circuits and of electricity running through computer chips, transistors and communications lines.

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# Mecca crystallized Arab fears of Iran

Patrick Seale

RIGHTLY or wrongly, most Arab rulers are convinced that revolutionary Iran is intent on changing the political landscape in the Gulf region by overthrowing the traditional rule of kings, sheikhs and sultans.

Although Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the lesser sheikhdoms have helped fund Iraq's war effort, they have not wanted a violent confrontation with Iran. They have made repeated professions of neutrality during the seven-year war and have engaged in quiet diplomacy with Iran.

Their biggest nightmare is that the conflict might spill over to engulf them.

But a widespread sentiment in the Gulf today is that the violent death of so many Iranian pilgrims in Mecca marked a point of no return in Saudi-Iranian relations. Iran's call for revenge has confirmed these fears.

Ayatollah Khomeini himself denounced "the vile and godless Saudis," who, he said, were not worthy to run the pilgrimage or guard the holy shrines of Islam.

Any serious over-spill of the war would pose a formidable dilemma for a number of key Arab states such as Egypt and Syria, for powerful non-Arab neighbours such as Turkey and Pakistan, and for the Western powers most directly involved in the Gulf, notably Britain, France and the U.S.

The Arab world is conscious that

Egypt is the only Arab power sizeable enough to hold Iran in check if it were to menace the Gulf states.

No doubt an Egyptian military intervention would serve as Egypt's ticket back in to the bosom of the Arab family. But the Egyptian public has no stomach for foreign military ventures, and President Mubarak would have to weigh his decision very carefully.

Iran's militant rhetoric and its increasing subversion are also a threat to President Assad of Syria, whose policy of alliance with Iran has aroused bitter hostility in the Arab world, and has cost him much aid from the oil-producing countries.

It is doubtful whether he can afford to remain friends with a regime which openly advocates the overthrow of the Saudi monarchy.

The Mecca carnage in which 400 people died, of whom 275 were Iranians, may be the event that snaps the thread of Syria's links with Teheran, already stretched to breaking point by their competition in Lebanon.

Pakistan and Turkey both have close, although not widely publicized, military ties with the Arab countries of the Gulf. Both have reasons to fear the spread of Iranian-

inspired fundamentalists, but neither would wish to be drawn into a fight with Iran.

The same is true of the Western powers. By reflagging Kuwaiti tankers and providing naval escorts, Washington has moved ahead of its European allies in throwing down the gauntlet.

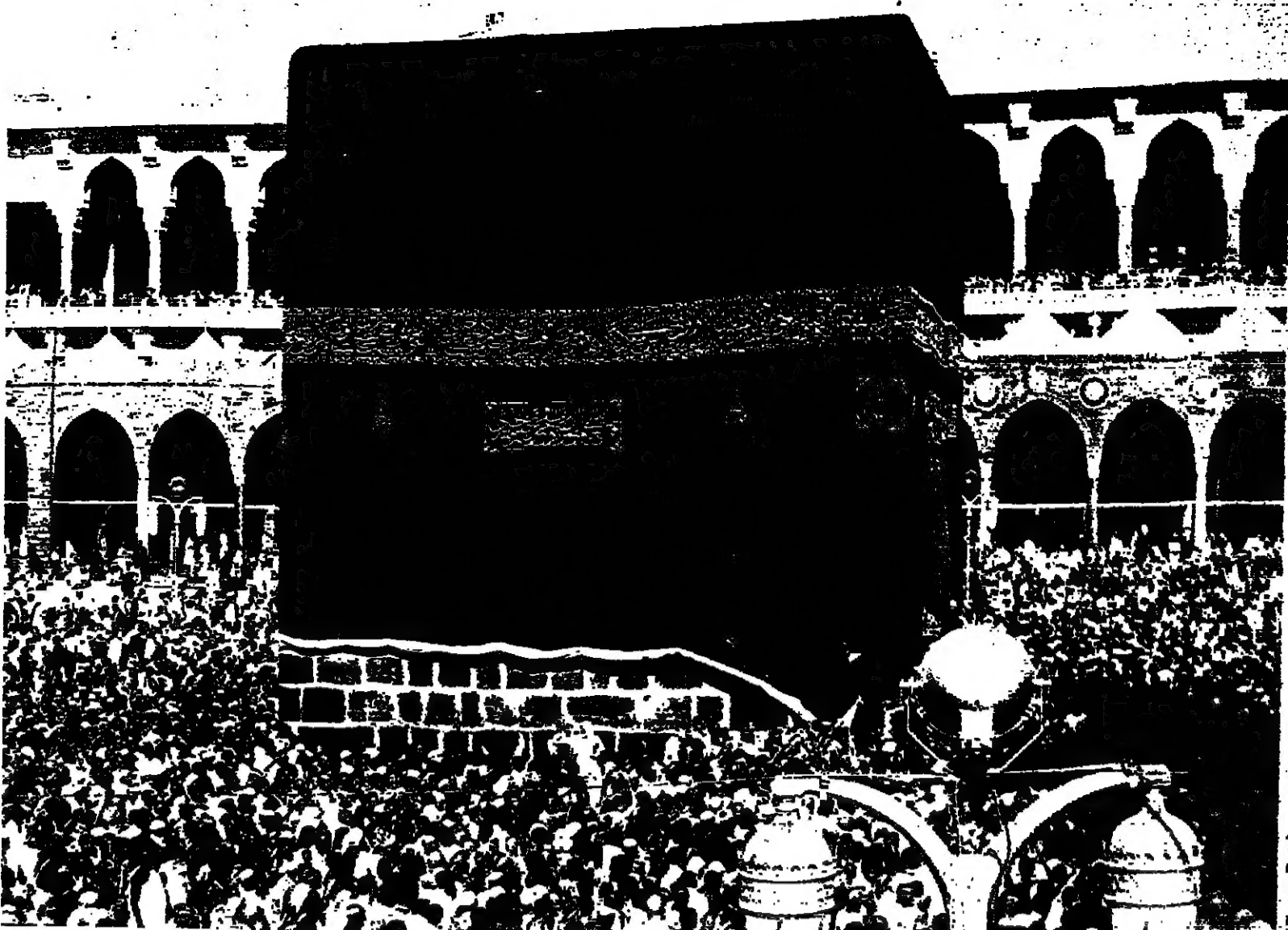
But no western country, the U.S. included, relishes the prospect of an all-out war against militant Islam. Yet Iran cannot be allowed to intimidate, subvert and eventually overrun the Arab countries of the Gulf, where vast Western interests are at stake.

So grave are the problems that could flow from the Mecca incident that moves are already afoot in several capitals to defuse the crisis and separate the actual and potential combatants.

The open secret at the United Nations is that Washington is looking for an honourable way out of its reflagging commitment to Kuwait - the fatal decision that largely contributed to the present volatile situation.

A resolution is in preparation at the Security Council which would replace the American flag in tankers with that of the UN, thus allowing the U.S. to withdraw its fleet and increase its painstaking efforts to bring Iraq and Iran to the conference table.

(London Observer Service)



Holiest of holies in the Moslem world, the Ka'aba in Mecca: the violent death of Iranian pilgrims signified a point of no return in Saudi-Iranian relations.

## Iraq cuts red tape

Alan George/Baghdad

supervised, and which are now directly answerable to the ministries.

At the same time, the decrees abolished "all laws, rules, regulations and directives" affecting the two industry ministries which could hinder production. Ministers and the directors of State Establishments were urged to take personal initiatives aimed at boosting output, and a system of cash bonuses to workers for productive innovations was introduced.

This was followed by a major restructuring of the Irrigation Ministry - an extremely influential body, given Iraq's heavy dependence on the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Fourteen independent

companies were created to replace State Organizations previously forming part of the ministry.

ON MAY 19, another RCC decree abolished the State Organization for Water and Sewerage, a part of the Local Government Ministry responsible for a series of massive water-supply and sewerage schemes. Also abolished were two sister organizations responsible for designing and building, and operating and maintaining such schemes. The three agencies have been replaced by a single company, the State En-

terprise for Water and Sewerage. Similar reforms have been instituted in other ministries, resulting in several thousand redundancies.

Parallel with the administrative shake-up, it has been decided to launch a programme of sales of state assets. Major targets for privatization are state-run agricultural projects, whose output record has been dismal compared to that of privately-owned farms and co-operatives. The state airline, Iraqi Airways, will also come up for sale.

The environment for free enterprise has also been improved by a decree allowing privately-owned foreign exchange to be used for private imports. This is a sharp break

with previous practice, where the state maintained a comprehensive grip on both trade and hard-currency reserves.

ONE OF THE most surprising moves, however, came last month, when President Hussein bluntly warned the security services and the Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party (the sole legal party) to cease interfering in the productive process.

A statement issued by Ahmad Hussein, Saddam's *chef de cabinet*, and carried on the front page of the daily *Al Thawra* newspaper, referred to complaints from "some productive enterprises" about "interference from the security services and party which led to actively preventing the central aim of increasing production and improving its quality." Such interference was "illegal."

Given the regime's heavy reliance on the party and the much-feared

*mukhabarat*, or secret police, the statement was astonishing.

Shortly after, the president declared his admiration for the Soviet Union's new *glasnost* policy, saying that he wanted Iraq to follow suit. The gradual removal of secrecy from public life, he said, would enable the country to progress.

While the drive against red tape and the encouragement of private enterprise should lead to increased productivity and output, however, the political consequences are unpredictable.

There is no suggestion in any of the reforms announced so far that the president or his colleagues in the RCC envisage any reduction of their draconian powers. Economic liberalization, however, usually brings in its train pressure for greater political freedoms.

(London Observer Service)

IRAQ IS MOVING fast to cut its bureaucracy, privatize state assets and encourage private enterprise, and introduce a *glasnost* policy to reduce the legendary secrecy of public life.

Until now, President Saddam Hussein's regime has been avowedly socialist, and the hallmark of Iraqi economic life has been tight, centralized control by a labyrinthine bureaucracy. It appears that the changes were prompted by a recognition - now increasingly widespread in the Third World - that excessive state control can be a major drag on economic progress. In addition, there was a desire to cut back government spending on the economy so that resources could be concentrated on the Gulf war effort.

The changes have been gathering pace since January, when a presidential decree abolished the distinction

between manual and office workers, paving the way for a transfer of bureaucrats to more directly productive jobs.

In February, two decrees were issued by the ruling Revolution Command Council (RCC), abolishing an entire tier of the industrial bureaucracy and encouraging officials to take initiatives without referring them up the administrative ladder.

The Light Industry Ministry became the Industry Ministry and the Ministry of Industry and Minerals became the Heavy Industry Ministry. All industrial State Organizations (administrative bodies forming part of the ministries) were abolished, and their responsibilities transferred to the State Establishments (agencies directly concerned with implementation and operation of projects) which they previously

CAIRO'S FUME-SPEWING cars, buses and trucks translate into this disquieting fact: traffic policemen in the city centre have nearly three times more exhaust poisons in their blood than international norms.

They are victims of polluted air which, experts say, is increasingly harming health, despite official efforts to cut effluent from vehicles, factories and garbage dumps.

The government is worried about the problems of pollution in the Arab world's largest city, and is trying to do something about it. But the task is daunting.

An underground-railway system is due to be inaugurated in late September, and the authorities hope it will reduce the number of cars and buses belching smoke on the roads. Numerous fly-overs help motorists negotiate old bottlenecks, enabling vehicles to move faster and burn

## Exhausted in Cairo

Esmat Salaheddin/Cairo

fuel more efficiently. A new billion-dollar sewage system is being built.

Environmentalists are planning to form a "green" party for ecologists. Small pressure groups such as the "Tree-lovers' Society" are on the increase.

But this ancient, crowded city of 14 million headstrong individuals, resistant to the best-laid official plans, still suffers from chronic pollution from traffic, industry and inadequate sanitation.

A perpetual pall of dust hangs

over the city, reinforced occasionally by a heavy dose of wind-blown desert sand.

DRIVING SOUTH along the Nile, one sees a cloud of pollution over houses and fields from cement works in the industrial suburb of Helwan.

They use inefficient filters or none at all, say officials of the government's two-year-old watchdog Environmental Affairs Agency.

"The cement factories discharge huge amounts of dust every day," said environmentalist Yasser Barudi in a recent magazine article. "The amounts might reach up to 5 per cent of their total production."

Unless it rains - and it doesn't rain often in Helwan - these tons of cement dust are visible all over the area's foliage, buildings and roads. "The rate of bronchitis or asthma has noticeably increased, especially among children, in the Helwan area in recent years because of cement dust in the air," said a local doctor.

The Environmental Agency has contracted a local firm to develop a filter.

The agency also hopes to tackle traffic pollution by using monitoring devices and refusing licences to vehicles that pour out too much carbon monoxide, nitrogen and other toxic gases.

Its director, Mohamedi Sayed Eid, told Reuters the scheme would start next year for private cars.

But the problem is immense. There are over a million vehicles in Cairo and experts say more than 90 per cent of them discharge more exhaust fumes than the internationally-accepted volume.

A study by American and Egyptian specialists in the agency's magazine, *Development and Environment*, reported that Cairo traffic police, with three times more toxic substances in their blood than the average elsewhere, risked heart and respiratory trouble.

Their blood contained up to 50 mgm. per cubic centimetre of lead, compared with an international average of 20, the study said.

CAIRO IS LARGELY a concrete-and-brick city, afflicted by limited space and unlicensed construction on cultivated land. Old trees are sometimes chopped down, despite regulations imposing stiff fines or three months in jail for tree-cutting.

"The amount of green space per head is only a few square centimetres, says the Environmental Agency's five-year plan, comparing this with up to 15 square metres per head in some industrial countries.

The Nile itself, vital to Egypt's survival, is a victim of pollution from chemicals discharged untreated by factories along its banks, or into tributary canals.

Air-spraying of pesticides adds to the problem.

Invisible but pervasive is one of Cairo's worst types of environmental hazard - noise pollution. Driving a car without sounding the horn is unacceptable to Cairene drivers.

Noise levels in central Cairo streets, at 96 decibels, are worse than in some factories.

(London Observer Service)

The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Liati.

'Whatever else the Middle East may be, it is not the place for an optimist'

## A brotherhood at war with itself

Robin Lustig

A FEW months ago, Yasser Arafat was holding one of his notoriously late-night chat sessions with a select group of Western reporters. It was during a summit conference of Islamic leaders in Kuwait and the talking point of the day was that President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Hafez al-Assad of Syria, two of the region's most implacable enemies, had been observed walking arm in arm.

Would Arafat, we asked, another of President Assad's less favourite Arab leaders, one day put his arm in Assad's? The Palestine Liberation Organization chairman gave a wide smile, spread his hands in a gesture of helplessness and said: "Why not? After all, this is the Middle East."

Sometimes jokes help. Two senior Arab diplomats meet at a smart New York reception. "My friend, my friend," cries diplomat A as he embraces his colleague warmly and kisses him loudly on both cheeks. "Friend?" queries diplomat B. "We are not friends, we are as brothers." Pause, as diplomat A basks in such flattery. Then comes the bite. "My friends I can choose, my brothers I cannot."

Jokes tell truths which otherwise are difficult to admit. One such truth is that the Arab nation these days is at war with itself. There has been no summit meeting of the Arab League for the past five years.

As 1987 has shown, it is not that old favourite, "the Arab-Israeli conflict," which is causing most worry now, but the Gulf War, which as it approaches its seventh anniversary is in danger of reaching out to suck in the superpowers. Despite all the diplomatic huffing and puffing over how to convene a Middle East peace conference, the peace process has run out of steam.

In Washington, the big worries are warships and floating mines in the Gulf, and hostages (yes, still hostages) in Lebanon. One false move by the U.S. gunner escorting those Kuwaiti tankers flying American flags in the Gulf, and the hostages

will die. Since they include my friend Charles Glass, who was snatched during my last visit to west Beirut in June, I tend to worry about such things.

PERHAPS it is time for both Israelis and Palestinians to realize that the rest of the world really doesn't care that much any more about their historic conflict over who has the right to do what and to whom in their relatively small section of the Levant. Time has moved on.

Too many Israelis suffer from geographic claustrophobia. They can't travel to Jordan, Lebanon, Syria or Iraq, and after one quick trip to Egypt to see the Pyramids, they probably will never again travel to the Arab world or meet any Arab other than their house-cleaner or gardener.

This leads to the most pathetic absurdities: the El Al security girl at Ben-Gurion airport, for example, who asked me why I was travelling from Tel Aviv to Beirut via Cyprus - "Why don't you just drive across the border?" - either not knowing that the Israeli army had pulled out of Beirut in 1983 or somehow not realizing that Israel is still formally at war with three of its four neighbours.

I remember, too, the Jerusalemite whose hill-top apartment boasted a fabulous view over the Jordan valley and into Jordan itself: "What is it really like over there?" he asked me as we stood one day on his terrace. "Do they really still want to push us all into the sea?"

There are no answers in the Middle East, no heroes, no easy villains. All that can be said for certain is that there will be more bloodshed, more grief, more tragedy. Israel, still the strongest military power in the region, is beset with internal strife and political stalemate, blessed with some of the least capable crisis managers in an area where crisis management skills should be an essential qualification of any holder of public office.

IN EGYPT, Jordan and Syria, governments struggle to keep their countries on an even keel as Islamic fervour rises and oil revenues slump.



'Israel's success in its 20-year occupation makes the price a bearable one.'

The alarmists like to say that just two bullets - one aimed at President Mubarak and the other at King Hussein of Jordan - could change the face of the Middle East in a second. Lebanon is terminally ill and should be removed from the life-support machine. Cantonalization, federalization, call it what you like: the place will never be a unitary state again.

In Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain, I looked at the monuments of concrete and glass built with money earned from the sale of oil and saw, through half-shut eyes, the future: there seemed to be nothing but huge sand-dunes, with camels grazing lackadaisically among the ruins of the multi-storey office

blocks. Once again, it had become a world of shifting sands, where allegiances, alliances, and binding oaths of everlasting brotherhood change almost with every sunrise and sunset.

Whatever else the Middle East may be, it is not the place for an optimist. In Lebanon, they tell the story about the Lebanese priest who prayed for help to St. Maroun, the patron saint of Lebanon's Maronite Christians. "My son," replied the saint, "this is too big a problem for me, you must pray directly to our Lord Jesus Christ." "But I can't do that," objected the priest, aghast. "He's a Palestinian."

(London Observer Service)

## Jordan lacks cash for plane deal

Alistair Lyon/Amman

manufacturers Dassault had hoped to sell 40 Mirage or Tornado aircraft to Jordan in a deal worth some \$1.5 billion. One diplomat predicted that Jordan would still choose either the British or French plane if encouraged by Saudi Arabia.

Jordanian officials and Soviet diplomats declined to comment on a recent report on the London-based *Jane's Defence Weekly* that a Mig-29 deal with Moscow might have been concluded.

The Western diplomats said they

believed Jordanian pilots had tried to fly the Soviet plane, but they had no evidence that negotiations were under way or that financing had been found.

They questioned whether Jordan was ready to make the technical and training changes, perhaps including the presence of Soviet advisers, involved in switching to Soviet aircraft from the Mirages and U.S.-built F-16s now in service.

Jordan, with a growing budget deficit and foreign exchange cash

reserves only of \$200 million at the end of June, seems in no position to break a long-standing reliance on its Gulf Arab allies, mainly Saudi Arabia, to fund major arms purchases.

The Reagan administration withdrew a proposed \$1.9 billion package of missiles, armoured vehicles and aircraft to Jordan in January, 1986 because of opposition in Congress, which voiced fears the sale would endanger Israel's security.

King Hussein, piqued at that decision and at covert U.S. arms sales to Iran, has said he will never again request weapons from the United States, a traditional ally.

He has not disclosed how he would react should Washington offer to supply them.

(Reuters)

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# Japan grapples with joblessness

By PETER MCGILL

TOKYO. — Last year, low wage, dollar-tied South Korea overtook Japan for the first time as the leading exporter of ships to a shrinking world market. In common with other Japanese builders, Hitachi Zosen, one of the world's biggest shipbuilders, has been losing money heavily; it has recently disclosed a record annual loss of \$275 million. By this June, the company's workforce will have been slashed from 17,000 at the end of 1985 to just 6,200. The Innoshima yard is worst affected, from 3,300 to just 850.

Innoshima grows wistful at the promise of big government grants. But a largely deserted industrial park on land reclaimed from the sea is a bad omen. The former mayor tried to sell the island as a "holiday resort" (harbour views and fresh sushi), and assiduously courted "flower growers" to stop the jobs hemorrhage. Incredulous voters ousted him from his post at the end of April. Unless more serious successors can be found for Hitachi's cranes, planners admit that another 17,000 people may leave the island for good.

Shipbuilding at the Innoshima yard, which began in 1894, will have to end this summer when a small ocean trawler rolls down a giant slipway. The yard's six huge building cranes, once pillars of the island's pride, will soon be dismantled and sold abroad, possibly to China. The old shipbuilding apprentice school is now a fiberglass factory. A plan to turn an old workshop into a distillery, making brandy from Innoshima's famous oranges, still awaits the government nod and has one employee.

The Innoshima yard's most startling sight was three former welders wading in galoshes and welding fishing nets and yellow plastic buckets instead of blow torches. In the gloom that filters through tarpaulin roofs thousands of scaly flounders lie motionless at the bottom of fish tanks, and the men's job was to prise out the delicacies for sending to the market.

Yukiharu Miyaji worked as a ship's architect for Hitachi Zosen but after 22 years decided to accept "voluntary retirement" last December and has since been on the dole. Forty-two years old, Miyaji concluded that while there was no future designing ships, neither was there any future for him teaching his skills to developing countries in the consultancy firm to which he was to be transferred.

"Hitachi set up these small companies without any clear aim in mind, merely as a means to keep people employed. When we are 'loaned' to these subsidiaries we are told to create our own work. They are just 'one-way tickets', he remarks scornfully. "After three or four years they probably go bank-

rupt, and if I'm out of a job at that age, it's much harder to be hired."

A serious and intense man, Miyaji is convinced he is being punished by Hitachi for bucking the system and opting out. He developed Hitachi's software for computer-aided design and manufacture of every kind of ship built at Innoshima, from tugboats to supertankers. This year, he found that every time a prospective employer asks for references, Hitachi "writes something disagreeable." He claims his company "plays dirty" with him because it "dreads

its 12 blast furnaces in Japan are to be closed down, and staff reduced from 46,000 to 27,000 by 1990. Kamaishi's furnace will be extinguished next year, one of the first to close, and the 2,300 workforce cut to just 800.

There is deep anger and frustration at the spurned sacrifices made by Kamaishi's citizens for its doomed steel mill. A total closure of the mill affecting not just 1,100 staff but 2,000 sub-contractors and 4,500 people who make their living from restaurants, shops and other services

transfer to other companies and in-house retraining but the "double-punch" of structural decline and currency woes forced it to abandon such benevolence.

The government, he says, must now act to stop the rot, "but instead all they do is talk". A few million pounds now for Muroran will not be much help, he claims despondently. "It's too late, it's been going on for so long. Everything is now falling apart."

The management and union of



Japanese shipyard workers in more prosperous times.

(United Nations)

the thought" of any rival poaching its latest technology.

A former workaholic, Miyaji sometimes feels "uncomfortable" sitting around the house. He used to work 10 hours a day with only four days off a year. Twice a month he worked Saturday mornings, although overtime was often unpaid, to help the company weather the recession. Guilt about his current leisure vanishes when he recounts this extra toil for no money. "We worked hard for nothing. It makes me angry."

Citizens of Kamaishi, a steel city on the Pacific coast some 800 miles northeast of Innoshima, imagined they would be immune from the same trauma. The mill belonging to Nippon Steel Corp. the world's top steel maker, is the biggest single employer in the whole impoverished northeast region. Kamaishi also occupies a special place in Japan's history as the birthplace of its steel industry. The private steel mill began operations in 1886, and the city celebrated its centenary last year with much pomp.

At the ceremony Nippon Steel president Yutaka Takeda gave no hint at the party of the drastic "retrenchment" policy he was to unveil this February to halt his company's losses (\$93 m. deficit this year): five of

would "return Kamaishi to what it was 100 years ago — just a village," predicts city official Keiichi Maekawa.

The Labour Ministry in Tokyo likes to claim that workers made redundant by large Japanese companies are always offered alternative work elsewhere. Eiji Kato recalls the shock of being "voluntarily retired" after 16 years at the Japan Steel Muroran factory in far north Hokkaido Island. The factory used to make Japanese navy guns under license from old British partners Armstrong Whitworth and Vickers. More recently it was an oil-refining plant, mired already in recession when the high yen struck. Like many of his colleagues, Kato had left his family behind to work at Japan Victor Co. (JVC) video and compact disc works in Yokohama as part of an inter-company transfer deal for surplus staff. "When I got back home I found I was out of a job."

Kato is one of 280 out of 450 staff cut last October by Japan Steel who are still on the dole in Mororan. With 19 job openings drawing 100 applicants, there is precious little hope of work in the city for those in their mid-forties with few skills to offer. Yukio Oshita of Japan Steel pleads that the company "tried to protect lifetime employment" by

rival Nippon Steel treat such talk as dangerous defeatism. Both are pledged to portray at a reassuringly bright future for Muroran, despite the company's closure in 1990 of its ultra-modern furnace and the probable loss of most of the 7,500 steel-making jobs it provides for the city. After weeks of planning, the union held a mass meeting in the company gymnasium to dispel mounting dissent among the rank and file. Stage banners trumpeted "breaking through this crisis barrier" and "ensuring the basis for Japan's steel industry."

A string of uplifting speeches, all carefully omitting to mention redundancy or Nippon Steel's investment with a U.S. partner in a new steel factory in Indiana, culminated in an address by Muroran company union leader Kiyoshi Yoneta. "We must not give up. There are 124 million people in Japan, and to survive we must change all our economic structure," he intoned to nodding heads. "We are all in the same boat, and we will survive together. Our heart is one, and together we will make Muroran prosperous." Five-thousand fists were raised high in an electrifying display of solidarity, yet no one was assured of escaping the axe.

London Observer Service

## Volcker passes Fed mantle to Greenspan

By MARTIN CRUICKSHANK

WASHINGTON. — Paul Volcker stepped down this week after eight years as one of the most powerful U.S. economic policy-makers, turning over the chairmanship of the Federal Reserve to Alan Greenspan. The transition took place yesterday when the 61-year-old Greenspan took the oath of office as the 13th chairman since the U.S. Central Bank's founding in 1913.

By all accounts, Greenspan, a widely respected economist who served as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors under President Gerald Ford, will have a tough act to follow.

Volcker is hailed as the man who liberated the country from its worst economic predicament since the Great Depression that followed the 1929 stock market crash. A long-simmering bout of inflation had reached double-digit levels when he took office in 1979.

First appointed by President Jimmy Carter, Volcker had to move immediately to deal with a plunging dollar and rising inflation. By contrast, Greenspan is taking over at a time of relative calm for the U.S. economy.

Unemployment has fallen to a decade-low of 6 per cent, while the economic recovery will soon set a record as the longest peacetime expansion in history.

"Greenspan has been dealt the best hand that any new Fed chairman has ever had," says Michael Evans, head of a Washington forecasting firm.



Alan Greenspan (left) and Paul Volcker.

(APF)

That is not to say that Greenspan will not have problems to deal with when he assumes his new responsibilities.

The Federal budget deficit and the foreign-trade imbalance, the twin deficits which have troubled the country for most of the decade, are improving but at a very slow pace.

The Third World debt situation is still a major crisis. Inflation, which all but disappeared in the U.S. last year, is posing a potential threat again because of rising food and energy costs.

At his confirmation hearings, Greenspan sounded like he might try to surpass Volcker as an inflation-fighter, declaring, "It is absolutely essential that (the Fed's) central focus be on restraining inflation. If that fails, then we will have very little opportunity for sustained long-term economic growth."

The Central Bank tries to control inflation through its power over the growth of the money supply. Its goal is to support healthy economic

growth while guarding against pumping out so much money that inflation is rekindled.

In April, the Fed tightened the money supply slightly in order to support the dollar, which at the time was falling rapidly. But since that time, the Fed has essentially been idle as the dollar stabilized and investor fears about inflation subsided.

Many analysts believe the Fed will continue on this middle-of-the-road approach for the foreseeable future while Greenspan learns his way around and tries to develop a consensus on the board.

Greenspan's first test may well come in the area of Latin American debt. Volcker, who has spent the past five years crafting solutions to keep the debt bomb from exploding, will be staying on as a consultant at the Fed for the next several weeks, and debt negotiations will likely be one of the prime topics of discussion with Greenspan.

(Associated Press)

## Chip off the old Rubik's Cube

### Israeli-British team may have hit puzzle

By DAVID HOROVITZ

LONDON. — An Anglo-Israeli company has just launched a new mind-bending puzzle, "Impuzzable," which it hopes will emulate the success of the best-selling brain-teaser Rubik's Cube.

"Impuzzable," produced and distributed by the Missing Link Trading Company, is made up of nine jigsaw pieces, which must be assembled to form one square.

According to the Haifa-born Eitan Mor, who founded the company together with Londoner Richard Stern, Impuzzable has over 300,000 incorrect combinations and just one correct solution.

Impuzzable was launched in Britain last month, exclusively at the top toy store Hamleys, and over 1,000 puzzles were sold in the first month at the Regent Street alone.

Now Mor and Stern are bringing the puzzle to Israel and are planning to export it world-wide.

Impuzzable is Missing Link's second venture into the world of jigsaws; their first was with "Jigstars,"

a series of 250-piece puzzles based on popular record covers and Disney characters.

The Jigstars range has sold over 75,000 units in Britain alone, and is now being distributed in Israel by Zinik & Co.

Among the designs on offer are the cover of Madonna's first album,

in flight. "Richard and I both had a background in the record industry, and he hit on the idea of featuring pop stars in a jigsaw puzzle."

Missing Link has to pay the record companies a four figure sum for every album cover design they use, as well as royalties on each unit sold, but

'Impuzzable' was launched in Britain last month, exclusively at the top toy store Hamleys, and over 1,000 puzzles were sold in the first two weeks at the Regent Street store alone.

several Queen and David Bowie album covers, and one featuring Donald Duck.

"We got the idea for Jigstars when we found out that 17 million pounds were spent annually on puzzles in Britain alone," said Mor, "and about six times that amount in the U.S."

"Yet, most jigsaw-puzzles featured fairly boring pictures, like trains going into tunnels, or airplanes

Jigstars have proved very popular in Britain, and Mor has high hopes for big sales worldwide.

The company's greatest expectations, however, are reserved for Impuzzable, which Mor believes presents a challenge to all age groups. "It looks so simple," he said, "but believe me, it isn't. It's complex enough to tax the most adept puzzle fanatic."



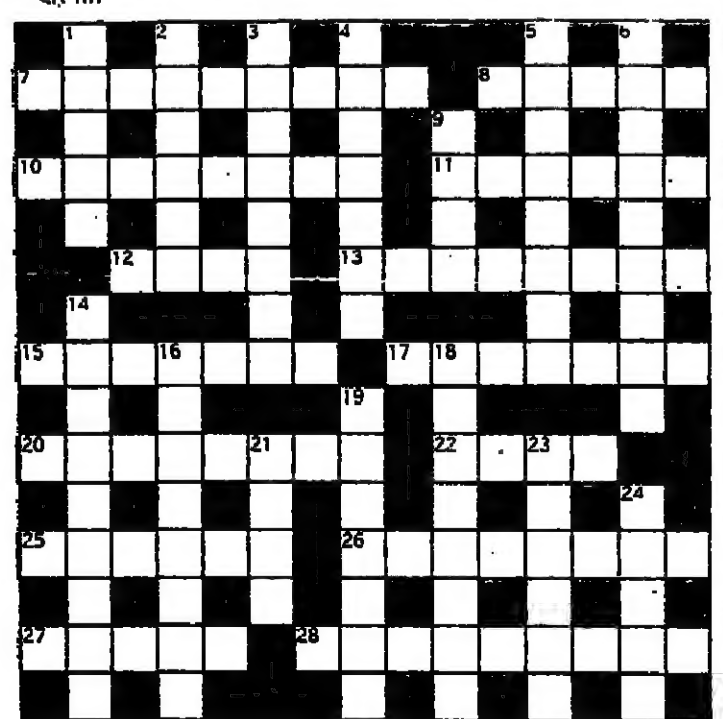
## CROSSWORD

ACROSS

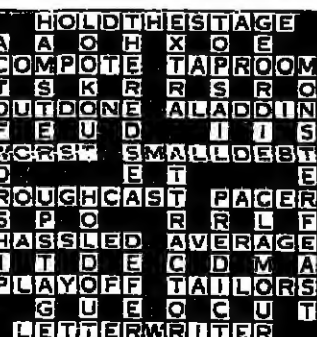
- 7 Marching orders proving Labour correct? (4,3)
- 8 Deliver by motorail, maybe (3)
- 10 Careless hands out a large amount (8)
- 11 Confess to speak out though unconcerned with ethics (6)
- 12 Spontaneous love in fire (4)
- 13 Circumspect about a trade in a pledge (8)
- 15 Dismiss one who tells (7)
- 17 Indispensable element of a perfume (7)
- 20 Renewable on a river in Italy, say (8)

DOWN

- 22 Top mimic getting cross (4)
- 23 Gone for a drink in Staffs, it's said (6)
- 24 Susceptible girl involved with a bloke (8)
- 27 Can New York be so metallic? (5)
- 28 Light surround (9)
- 1 The French and English flower of oblivion (5)
- 2 Good man with spirit has a thyroid abnormality (6)



Yesterday's Solution



ACROSS: 1 Hands, 4 Capped, 10 Press, 11 Even, 1. Fitness, 13 Ave 14 Omar, 16 Tate, 18 Cue, 20 Through, 21 Fall, 24 Range, 25 Letters, 26 Heath, 27 Mater, DOWN: 1 Heaven, 2 Nudge, 3 Vork, 5 Appetite, 6 Present, 7 Desert, 8 Gaffer, 13 Argument, 15 Miranda, 17 Starch, 18 Chile, 19 Player, 22 Adept, 23 Stem.

## QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 A round of polo
- 3 Consider
- 8 Domineering
- 9 Share
- 10 Native of America
- 11 Largest state
- 12 Entitled organic matter
- 13 Avel
- 14 Illness
- 17 Facsimile
- 19 London soccer team
- 22 Pillage
- 23 In debt
- 24 Porch
- 25 Headset

DOWN

- 1 Poisonous snake
- 2 Social climber
- 3 Sismo canoe
- 4 Show contrition
- 5 Naval craft
- 6 Perfance
- 7 Frankness
- 12 Motorist
- 13 Bravo
- 14 Stress
- 16 Buy and sell
- 18 Australian native dog
- 20 I substitute news item
- 21 A to the

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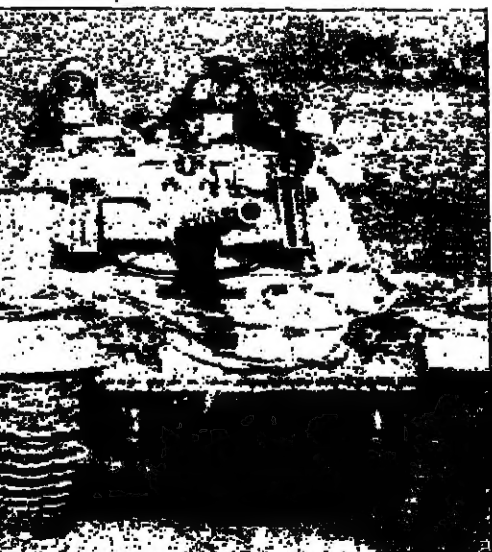
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## MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

## Branches out

It was only a few years ago when the quickest path to riches — even quicker than bank shares — was to be a barber whose shop was adjacent to a bank branch. The branch expanded, bought you out for a fortune and you retired to share speculations, conducted in your old premises!

In those good old days, bank branches sprouted up like mushrooms. Every bank boasted that "in the last six months/year we have opened x new branches in y towns and cities around the country, while another z branches have been refurbished/expanded/transferred to larger premises."

Now, the wheel has come full circle. The latest fashion in bank announcements is to boast how many branches each bank has shut, sold, rented out (to minimarkets and other growth industries) or otherwise disposed of.

This is an extension of the post-1983 concentration on two parallel trends — to get smaller, but to make enormous efforts to tell everyone about every aspect of your "streamlining," as this shrinking process is euphemistically termed.

It started with people. Banks vied with each other in how many hundreds or thousands of staffers, mostly untrained, they had put out to pasture. Those with small absolute numbers concentrated on publicizing the percentage of their work-force axed, while the majors basked in the glory of having dispatched battalions of workers to other, presumably more productive and more rewarding, jobs.

The Bank of Israel was the cause of the new line in boasting, by introducing a three-year branch-reduction plan. The banks struggled against this long and hard, but now they seem to be biting the bullet.

The genius of the PR crowd has been to make capital out of the branch-closure programme, by using it as a method of self-aggrandizement. Unlike firings, which obviously involve human beings, branch closures are outwardly impersonal events, which don't have the cruelty aspect that staff reduction schemes undeniably do.

The boastfulness index on this subject has recently soared. United Mizrahi Bank held a briefing for the press to explain how they were making profits again, but stressed the million or two dollars that they had garnered from selling excess real estate, that had been bought up in the boom years for extra branches.

Bank Leumi announced excellent profit figures—certainly compared to the miseries of last year—but didn't forget to add that the bank had also been engaged in selling branches like crazy. Leumi is so keen on getting rid of these unnecessary and unproductive assets — as they have now become, although they were wonderful funk-holes for inflation-proof investments five years ago — that it even wrote off part of the value of 70 more branches and plots that it intends to unload itself of a.s.a.p.

Not to be outdone in any form of competition, Bank Hapoalim didn't wait to publish its own results as a cover for telling the world where it isn't in business any more. Special press releases have, last month and this, explained in detail where the bank was lowering its profile, both at home and abroad. All that was missing was a map, to be marked "We are not here."

Amal stated that the mortar attack had been in retaliation for the Israeli Air Force's helicopter strike against a building used by Amal in Sultaniya, northeast of Tibnia, on Sunday night. The two-storey building was destroyed, although there were no reports of casualties.

The Amal statement said that if Israel "continues to attack our villages in liberated areas we will carry the response onto your territory."

The South Lebanese sources stressed, however, that the statement did not signify a change of Amal tactics. They noted that the previous occasion when Amal militiamen fired Katyushas into Israel followed an IDF and SLA bombardment of Amal-controlled villages north of Nabatieh.

The majority of Amal supporters want to retain the quiet in the region, but if that is disrupted by the IDF they will hit back," said a South Lebanese source.

"They are saying that if residents in Amal-controlled areas cannot enjoy relative quiet because of IDF attacks, then neither will residents of the settlements in Israel. This has been Amal's attitude all along," the source said.

The source said regional Amal leaders believed the IDF had made an "identification mistake" in hitting the Amal building in Sultaniya.

Nevertheless, the moderate Shi'ite organization could not afford to be seen doing nothing, and had hit back with the mortar attack on the IDF force north of Kantara.

Abu Nidal's breakaway Patah faction and the Syrian National Social Party also issued a statement, carried in the Beirut papers yesterday, claiming responsibility for firing the Katyushas that fell in Galilee on Sunday afternoon and early Monday morning.

The second rocket attack, which caused minor damage but no injuries, was initially blamed on Amal, although the Shi'ite organization denied responsibility.

## Bruno: Lavi will boost interest rates

By AVI TEMKIN  
Post Economic Reporter

Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno warned yesterday that long-term interest rates would go up if the cabinet went ahead with the Lavi jetfighter project.

Speaking before the Ministerial Economic Committee the governor said such decision would swell the government deficit and jeopardize the achievements of the economic stabilization programme.

Bruno came to the committee to defend the monetary policy of the Bank of Israel, which was staunchly criticized by Energy Minister Moshe Shabtal. The minister claimed that the high interest rates of 1984 and 1985 had harmed industry and agriculture, and insisted that they had to be compensated.

The governor said the economy had performed well in the last several months. Inflation was lower, there was a favourable balance of payments and signs of economic growth. He said the bank would concentrate its efforts in the coming months in closing the gap between short term interest rates.

Bruno stressed that the key to reducing interest rates in the last month had been the government's success in keeping spending within budgeted limits. He said continuing the trend was essential for keeping interest rates low by minimizing government borrowing thus keeping credit rates low.

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Lebanese workers, fearing the rapid drop in their currency's value, line up in front of an exchange office in West Beirut yesterday to convert their Lebanese pounds into foreign currency. The pound, battered by civil war and an economic crisis, fell to another new low yesterday, at 221 to the U.S. dollar. (AFP)

## London shares stage late takeoff on June trade data

LONDON (AFP). — Britain's June trade figures, showing a sharp improvement on the previous month, accelerated the rise in shares and lifted the pound on the stock exchange, after brief uncertainty at mid-day while investors were trying to assess their impact.

[At mid-day, Wall Street stocks were surging ahead for the second day. See New York Financial Markets on this page.] The Financial Times share in London closed up 30 points at 11772.6. Gilt gains around half point, having suffered a boost of profit-taking at mid-session.

Britain's current-account balance improved markedly in June with a deficit of \$263 million, against the May shortfall of an adjusted \$827m., according to provisional figures released by the Trade and Industry Ministry. The trade deficit was also sharply cut in June, from May, the

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## DEMJANJUK ON TRIAL

(Continued from Page Two)

...a service card, and asking a question about it.

But Robertson said that she did not want to look at these documents now.

"They are similar to Taf 149. That puts me in an awkward position and diminishes my credibility. This testimony is broadcast worldwide. It won't be understood as 'limited' testimony but as my expert opinion. Pray, do not impose this on me."

But Levin told the witness that she could not refuse to answer questions based on the new documents.

Shaked then asked Robertson to read the number on the white rectangle on Juchowski's tunic, as shown in the photo attached to his card. "Anything I say is not my expert opinion," said Robertson.

Levin again cautioned her that if she deliberately evaded answering questions this would reflect negatively on her entire testimony.

At this Gill said that if the court wanted expert testimony, it would take the witness 30 days — for each card.

The cross-examination of Robertson, with the fresh ingredients of the new Russian-supplied ID cards, continues today.

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## Israel Money Markets

Shekel Deposits (annual rates)				
Bank	Deposit Size	Rate	7 days	14 days
Bank Leumi	1,001-10,000	11.00	7.00	5.00
Bank Hapoalim	10,001-50,000	11.50	11.00	12.00
Bank Leumi	50,001-100,000	12.00	11.50	12.50
Bank Hapoalim	100,001-500,000	12.50	12.00	13.00
Bank Leumi	500,001-1,000,000	13.00	12.50	13.50
Bank Hapoalim	1,000,001-5,000,000	13.50	13.00	14.00
Bank Leumi	5,000,001-10,000,000	14.00	13.50	14.50
Bank Hapoalim	10,000,001-50,000,000	14.50	14.00	15.00
Bank Leumi	50,000,001-100,000,000	15.00	14.50	15.50
Bank Hapoalim	100,000,001-500,000,000	15.50	15.00	16.00
Bank Leumi	500,000,001-1,000,000,000	16.00	15.50	16.50
Bank Hapoalim	1,000,000,001-5,000,000,000	16.50	16.00	17.00
Bank Leumi	5,000,000,001-10,000,000,000	17.00	16.50	17.50
Bank Hapoalim	10,000,000,001-50,000,000,000	17.50	17.00	18.00
Bank Leumi	50,000,000,001-100,000,000,000	18.00	17.50	18.50
Bank Hapoalim	100,000,000,001-500,000,000,000	18.50	18.00	19.00
Bank Leumi	500,000,000,001-1,000,000,000,000	19.00	18.50	19.50
Bank Hapoalim	1,000,000,000,001-5,000,000,000,000	19.50	19.00	20.00
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Bank Hapoalim	10,000,000,000,001-50,000,000,000,000	20.50	20.00	21.00
Bank Leumi	50,000,000,000,001-100,000,000,000,000	21.00	20.50	21.50
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Bank Leumi	50,000,000,000,000,001-100,000,000,000,000,000	24.00	23.50	24.50
Bank Hapoalim	100,000,000,000,000,001-500,000,000,000,000,000	24.50	24.00	25.00
Bank Leumi	500,000,000,000,000,001-1,000,000,000,000,000,000	25.00	24.50	25.50
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Bank Hapoalim	10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,001-50,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000	35.50	35.00	36.00
Bank Leumi	50,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,001-100,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000	36.00	35.50	36.50
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## Tilting at windmills

"THE POLITICAL system has ceased to function," says the dean of the Tel Aviv University law faculty, Prof. Uriel Reichman. Few in Israel today would contest the basic soundness of his judgment.

When state matters of great pith and moment are put off for decision by sectional pressure until hell freezes over, and at best are decided by party fiefdoms masked as cabinet departments or by a cabinet and a Knesset hoodwinked and blackmailed by special interests, the conclusion is inescapable that the rot has set in so deeply the system is no longer in working order. And that people of goodwill and intelligence should band together to help it function again.

This is what Prof. Reichman and three of his law faculty colleagues, aided by other experts both Israeli and foreign, set out some 20 months ago to achieve: a draft constitution for the State of Israel.

The product of their joint effort is now before the public. It is the first fully-fledged draft constitution since the late Leo Kohn's nearly four decades ago, and it proposes a radically new design for an Israeli polity, the hallmark of which is order combined with liberty rather than wild anarchy crossed with wilful coercion. The Jewish state would, in other words, remain liberal and democratic, with equality before the law for once constitutionally assured to all its people by means of a bill of rights, but it would be a well-functioning state.

Whether the constitutional means devised by the Reichman team are adequate for securing these noble ends, is, of course, a matter for debate. Some will argue that it goes much too far in this direction or that, others that it does not go nearly far enough.

In reconsidering Israel's governmental structure, the underlying idea of this draft constitution is to graft the U.S. presidential and the West German systems onto the British-Israeli parliamentary-cabinet system. Proportional representation in the Knesset would be retained, but be modified on the lines of the Federal-Republic model, with roughly half the members of all parties being single-member constituencies. This would presumably bring the nation's legislators closer to the people whom they purport to represent. But it would not by itself ensure a stable parliamentary basis for the national executive.

This purpose would be ensured by making the cabinet far less dependent than it is today on the Knesset, and by elevating the premier above the cabinet. Like the U.S. president, the premier would be popularly elected - together with a running mate, a vice premier - for the same term as the Knesset. He would choose his cabinet ministers from outside parliament, and they would be accountable to him alone and removable at his behest.

The premier (along with the vice premier) would be subject to removal by the Knesset, but only through a vote of no-confidence cast by at least three-fifths of the membership, plus one extra deputy. A successful no-confidence motion would amount to dissolution, and new elections would be held within 40 days.

Those who believe that what the country needs is a strong hand at the helm, will applaud this proposal. Those who swear by checks-and-balances may be dismayed to discover that insufficient countervailing powers of administrative oversight are offered in the draft to the Knesset. This is worth pondering, in the light of the proposal, highly laudable though it is, that parliament also loses its present sovereign status as a law-making body by submitting legislation to judicial review by the Supreme Court.

If adopted, in whichever form, by two-thirds of the Knesset, the Reichman draft would by its own stipulations then be submitted to a popular referendum. Chances, however, are that it will not even be accepted as worthy of discussion by our MKs. The reason does not lie in the far-reaching nature of the structural reforms proposed, but in the revolutionary character of the suggested bill of rights.

Most Israelis would probably welcome a constitutional encodement of the natural human rights to freedom of expression, assembly, religion and conscience. But it is quite certain that the religious lobby in this or any foreseeable Knesset will not let pass any interpretation of human rights as including - which the Reichman team believes it does include - freedom from religious coercion, and a right to civil marriage.

As a piece of Knesset legislation, the draft is therefore doomed. As a fighting document it may only be starting to live.

## HEAT WAVE

(Continued from Page One)

declined to comment on Etti's death, saying that they were still recovering from the shocking news of the tragedy.

The male victim, Pitel Kamas of the U.S., fell ill on Masada, where it was 42 Centigrade in the shade on Monday. An ambulance arrived from Kalia and first aid was administered, but he was pronounced dead at Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital on Mt. Scopus.

Dr. Adler stresses that tourists must acclimatize their bodies to the heat before doing any rigorous

physical activity here, and should drink large amounts of water and rest as much as possible when they do go on outings.

Meir Indor, who tried desperately to resuscitate Sabersky, a member of the Belzer Hassidim, at Jerusalem's Central Bus Station, told *The Post* that he teamed up with another man with first-aid experience. They tried cardio-pulmonary resuscitation until the ambulance arrived, but to no avail.

He told Etti's girlfriends, who are members of the Belzer Hassidim community studying in Gateshead, to recite Psalms. "They were in shock. They didn't dream it was so serious."

"It is not customary among the ultra-Orthodox to go on outings," he said, "since they fear seeing immodest things." So when they do go, they often go without telling their family. "They have no army or youth movement experience, and don't know about equipment and first aid." They also often go to lonely areas rarely frequented by others. Because of this, there have been many cases of lost, drowned or otherwise harmed yeshiva students in recent years.

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# Oiling the works

David Krivine

THE ONLY valid criticism to be made of Energy Minister Moshe Shahal's plan for liberalizing the petroleum industry is that it was not done sooner. Once upon a time, the oil trade was government-controlled world-wide. In that epoch the market was dominated by giant oil companies, "the Seven Sisters."

Today the power of the Seven Sisters is broken and the trade has become competitive everywhere - except in Israel. Ten years ago, most international deals were in crude oil, each country wanting to do its own refining.

These controls are obsolete now, and half the refineries have closed down. A host of brokers have sprung up, the market is dynamic, innovative, non-protective.

A study of six Common Market countries three years ago revealed that in places where prices were deregulated (Britain, West Germany) oil was cheapest, whereas in places where controls remained (Belgium, Italy) it was most expensive.

The three newest EEC member countries, Greece, Spain and Portugal, hitherto heavily regulated, have five years to dismantle controls. Marc Heitner, an expert in oil economics, points out in a memorandum to the Energy Ministry that "many Western countries have abandoned price controls in recent years, having reached the conclusion that they were too costly to administer and of doubtful utility."

Unconcerned with all these developments, Israel retains a quasi-feudal system of entrenched privilege. The oil on every tanker coming to port belongs 45 per cent to Paz, 30 per cent to Delek and 25 per cent to Sonol.

Sale prices are not only government-controlled, they are fixed retroactively (that is to say, on

the basis of cost-plus) by the government-owned Equalization Fund. All imports are of crude, never mind the relative prices abroad of crude, semi-finished or finished oil products. The object after all is to feed the Haifa and Ashdod refineries which also, needless to say, work on cost-plus.

There is no competition in the market. Part of the oil proceeds from the refineries through pipelines to the power-stations. The rest is shifted to two terminals only: petroleum services (owned by the government) and Pi-Gillot (owned half by the government and half by Paz-Delek-Sonol). Trucks deliver the fuel to the petrol stations. They retail the gasoline, diesel and kerosene at identical prices, which are not posted.

The three oil companies do not (for the most part) own the trucks, nor the refineries, nor any handling, processing or storing facilities. Apart from a half-share in Pi-Gillot they own mainly their offices, desks and telephones. According to Heitner, international oil companies are generally saddled with assets (representing a heavy investment) equal to \$1 or \$2 per dollar of oil sold.

Paz-Delek-Sonol - let us call them PDS - own a pesty one dollar of assets per \$25 or \$30 of oil sales. Yet they are granted a monopoly of all oil imports. They actually buy 30 per cent of the total on the spot market. The government negotiates the rest in contracts with other governments, mainly for security-of-supply reasons. But PDS likewise handle the government's 70 per cent, admittedly on a non-profit basis.

Stock management is the subject of careful thought in all industries.

Materials are expensive to store, added to which fluctuations in their market price can cause by gains or severe losses. In Israel there are two categories of stock, operational and strategic.

PDS own both - and do not have to manage either properly because the government offers them cheap credit and guarantees stock values.

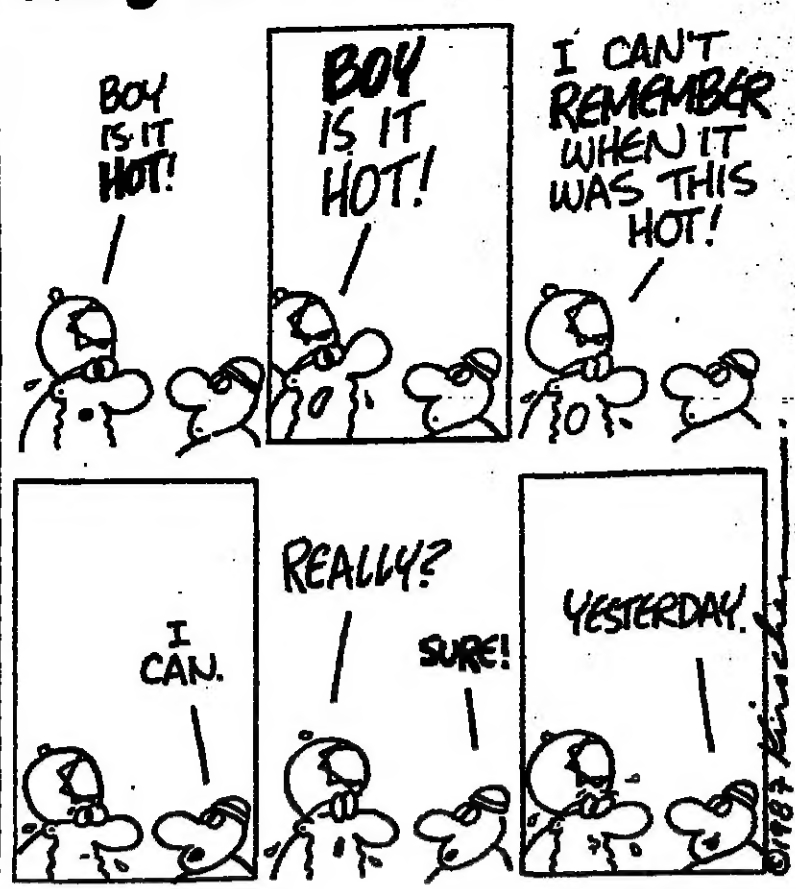
Moreover PDS are joint owners of two concerns, in addition to Pi-Gillot. One is the Jetfuel Company which supplies fuel to local and foreign planes at Israel's airports. The other, called Padesco, is sole seller of fuel for the West Bank and Gaza. In these areas they do not even pretend to compete, being monopoly suppliers. Ownership of the three monopoly companies are divided (can't you guess?) 45-30-25 per cent, like for Israel's fuel imports.

SHAHAL'S REFORM will be applied in two stages. Stage One liberalizes the import of the 30 per cent which is at present the exclusive domain of PDS. Henceforth (if the reform is adopted) anybody will be able to import fuel - and it can be any type of fuel, crude or processed.

The oil refineries will be free to do their own importing, which will change the pattern of their activity from top to bottom. Instead of passively processing all of Israel's oil for a fat fee, which allows these currently overstaffed concerns to be as efficient or inefficient as they like, they will have to compete with imported products processed overseas.

They will have to think hard about the economics of their own operation, sometimes purchasing (in Turkey or wherever) a semi-finished product going cheap that can be finalized at low cost in Haifa or Ashdod. They cannot undertake that kind of thing at present because they do not do the buying.

## Dry Bones



On the selling side their customers will be PDS, except for six big consumers whom they can deal with directly: the Israel Electric Corporation, the armed services, Nesher Cement, Israel Chemicals, Israel Petrochemicals and the refineries themselves (who need fuel for their own operations). These six customers account for almost half of Israel's total fuel consumption.

We are talking of Stage One, and that applies to only 30 per cent of Israel's oil imports (which means that the six big consumers will be buying directly only 15 per cent of Israel's turnover). The remaining 70 per cent will continue to be acquired under agreement with foreign governments and handled - or rather

managed, since they do not do any handling - by PDS as before.

What of Stage Two then? Heitner suggests that as long as the inter-governmental agreements are maintained, the refineries should be allowed (within the framework of those agreements) to buy crude up to the limit of the country's total imports.

Shahal's reform is nothing more than a process of normalization. It dismantles a structure that belongs to a past age. If the change goes through it will, as the experience of other countries shows, save us all a mint of money.

The writer is a member of The Post's editorial staff.

## SHARON

(Continued from Page One)

Already in 1980, said Sharon, then defence minister Ezer Weizman told his cabinet colleagues that the IDF had prepared a plan "to reach Beirut and to link up with the Christians."

That plan, he said, "in all essentials resembling the plan for Operation Peace for Galilee," was prepared by the General Staff in September 1979, and called for the conquest of South Lebanon up to "the Junieh-Zahle line" in order to basically change the situation in that country.

From the first, said Sharon, he had striven as defence minister for "a full solution" of the Lebanese-PLO problem: "I am against an implementation (of Operation Oranin - the IDF plan for invasion) in stages," Sharon quoted himself as saying in mid-1981.

In July 1981, PLO-IDF artillery duels across the border focused Sharon's and the General Staff's attention on the need for a radical solution of the northern border population as hostages. "But I was always against a war with Syria. I have always maintained that of all possible Israeli-Arab wars, war with Syria is likely to give us the least strategic benefit," explained Sharon.

From the end of 1981, said Sharon, he had repeatedly informed the General Staff and the IDF brass, including divisional and brigade-level commanders, that a war in Lebanon was in the offing, with its "major aim" being the "destruction of the PLO terror kingdom." Other aims of the operation, he told the General Staff in December 1981, would be "hitting the Syrians to cause a measure of Syrian withdrawal, placing the Galilee panhandle outside the range of artillery and rocket fire, and establishing a strong (Christian-led) regime in Beirut."

"The IDF knew full well months in advance the tendency (to go for an invasion) among the political echelon," said Sharon, implicitly rebutting charges by former generals that the IDF brass before May-June 1982 had no inkling where Sharon was leading them. "It was clear that the army would no longer (agree to) enter into artillery duels or be content with mere bombings," Sharon said.

In January 1982, Sharon recalled, he visited the Christian enclave and told the Phalangist leaders: "If there is a war, they will have to go into [Moslem West] Beirut...I told them, when they asked me what they should do: 'Try to prevent slow nibbling away at your enclave. If the Syrians attack you massively, we will come to your aid.' I pointed to the Beit Man heights and said: 'This height is important, take it and hold it. And get ready to enter West Beirut. Israel will not enter West Beirut, it's crowded, full of embassies, it's an Arab capital. But we will not initiate [the war]. We will only react [to a terrorist provocation] with the aim of destroying the terrorists and curtailing the Syrian presence; we do not want a full-scale war with Syria...'"

Sharon then recalled a second meeting, with Phalangist leader Bashir Jemayel and Begin. "Begin explained in what situation Israel would go to war. Begin told Jemayel that there was more or less a consensus [in Israel in support of the planned war]. [As many as] 105 out of 120 MKs will vote for it, but we need a clear provocation," Begin told Jemayel, "according to Sharon. Sharon recalled adding that Israel would 'surround Beirut from the south and north, and cut off the road to Zahle. In the Bekaa we will move northwards if the Syrians fight us.' To underline his point about the pre-war consensus, Sharon quoted

Rabin as saying on April 6, 1982, that "after we enter Lebanon, we will be able to set up a [pro-Israel] government, if we stay there for four-to-six months."

At the end of May, 1982, Sharon visited Washington and told then secretary of state Alexander Haig and defence secretary Caspar Weinberger that they should not be surprised by what could happen on the northern border. "I asked them: 'How many Jews have to die before it can be called "clear provocation"?' I did not ask the administration for the green light [for the invasion]. Those who said that Haig gave [a green light] are wrong. In fact, Haig warned us against going into Lebanon, and he gave no green light," Sharon said.

The shooting by Palestinian terrorists of ambassador Shlomo Argov in London on June 3, 1982, "only lit the fuse," said Sharon. "It was the excuse. The real reason for the war was the [PLO] threat to the north and the possibility of paralysis in the northern border settlements. That is why the identity of the would-be assassins was important [and it didn't matter whether they were PLO or not]."

At the cabinet meeting the following day, Begin told his colleagues that they had to prepare to make a major decision about "going to the maximum." It is unthinkable that the wretches (menusholim) should shoot our ambassador," Begin said, according to Sharon. Begin then quoted Lenin's statement: "We shall see who shall beat who."

The war at this stage was still not unavoidable, said Sharon. "It depended on whether the terrorists would shell our settlements [in retaliation for our air strikes]."

On June 5, 1982, recalled Sharon, the cabinet agreed to Begin's proposal for a 40-km.-deep invasion. "What about Beirut?" asked then deputy prime minister Simcha Ehrlich. "It's beyond the picture," replied Sharon. "To go to Beirut will require a separate, specific decision," Begin replied, according to Sharon. But Begin pressed the ministers for a decision that night, lest the Americans intervene and prevent the invasion.

This was "an appropriate hour [sha'at kosher], because of the world's preoccupation with the Falklands and the Iran-Iraq war," Begin reportedly argued.

That day, Sharon said, he ordered the army to prepare for an invasion "as far as the Beirut-Damascus road, with a link-up with the Christians." But the army was to try to do things so that the Syrians would not fight. Sharon then described in detail the successive briefings he gave the cabinet and the decisions the cabinet took about the following days' operations and planning for further operations.

"The cabinet was kept in the dark about nothing," he said. He noted that several Labour MKs, including Mordechai Gur and Yitzhak Rabin, during the first days of the war, asked operational questions, seemingly pressing him, Sharon, to push the IDF up to the Beirut-Damascus road and to a link-up with the Phalangists.

Sharon said that he had "never opposed the withdrawal from Lebanon. Indeed, as early as October 1982 I proposed to Washington and Jemayel that we leave south Lebanon (north of the Litani) but for five positions, with 400 men in them. But these proposals were not approved because (there were those) who wanted to make sure that nothing (favourable) would emerge from the war. That was the reason."

## READERS' LETTERS

### HOW TO PREVENT DROWNING

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - It is very disturbing to read in Judy Siegel-Itzkovich's article of July 24, "Swimming without fear," that 22 people have drowned over the last three months in the sea, lakes and pools of Israel. Learn-to-swim campaigns and volunteer teams of lifeguards may be the answer.

In Australia, education departments provide free swimming lessons during the summer holidays. Many of these are at holiday resorts. Children can progress from basic swimming skills through to advanced life-saving levels. Most Australian children attend such classes.

Around the Australian coast are hundreds of life-saving clubs, each of them responsible for a particular beach. Many young people join these and learn life-saving skills while taking part in a worthwhile community activity. Businesses sponsor surf rescue boats and equipment, and governments (local and state) also contribute funds. Radio stations and banks sponsor planes and helicopters which patrol the heavily used beaches. Surf life-saving carnivals held between clubs are a major attraction at Australian beaches.

Jerusalem. J.A. LOTHIAN

### RESISTANCE IN CRACOW

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - In his article of July 31, "From lament to resistance," Alexander Zvielli establishes a very strong connection between Tisha Be'Av and the situation of the Jews in Poland during World War II. There is, however, one inaccuracy: it was the Akiva movement and not Bnei Akiva who fought in Cracow.

DR. ARYE BAUMINGER,  
 The Jerusalem Society  
 for Cracow and Vicinity  
 Jerusalem.

### HYPOCRISY AT THE TOP

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - Pinhas Landau ("The bill of rights" July 24) is absolutely right. If only our leaders would read it, follow his advice and free all Israelis from this stupid law which does not allow them to hold money overseas.

Our leaders are hypocrites! We are not supposed to have bank accounts overseas, yet we encourage people who live in other countries to open up foreign currency accounts in Israeli banks. We are not supposed to own real estate abroad, but we tell people from other countries to have "a foothold (an apartment) in Israel." We base a great part of our economy on tourism and invite foreigners to visit Israel. Yet if those countries were to impose a high travel tax on their citizens like we do, our leaders would be the first to complain that tourism was being impeded.

Jerusalem. LILA BRODSKY

### CAT LOVERS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - We would like to enlist your help for the building of a new cat shelter in Haifa.

Since the management has changed about two years ago, the general shelter has improved considerably. We now need a cat shelter to keep kittens until we find them good homes. Therefore, our society is helping the SPCA in Haifa in this venture, and would appreciate help from your readers.

We take this opportunity to inform cat owners that they can receive free of charge our material on birth control for cats, by writing to us at P.O.B. 7365, Haifa.

MIRIAM ROHATYN  
 Honorary Secretary,  
 Israel Cat Lovers' Society  
 Haifa.

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